

Hafa Adai!

'Tourism, environment will be hit hard by military plan' » **PAGE 3**

CDA approves Ocean Vista's qualifying certificate. » **PAGE 5**

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXV, Issue No. 84

www.saipantribune.com

WEDNESDAY APRIL 29, 2015

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75¢

'Mathewson to use insanity defense'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» **Defense wants psychiatrist appointed to examine Mathewson**

Assistant public defender Michael Sato yesterday disclosed that his client, William Kapon Mathewson, the 36-year-old man charged with beating and stabbing Dr. François Claassens with a fishing spear in the neck, will rely upon the defense of insanity at the time when he committed the alleged crime.

See **MATHEWSON** on **Page 4**

CDA to foreclose on Freedom Air property

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Development Authority aims to take from Freedom Air what is owed them.

The CDA board approved yesterday a motion to direct the CDA's lawyer "to pursue the foreclosure of liens on any and all properties and aircraft" of Freedom Air.

The decision comes amid a renewed push by the Federal Aviation Administration to revoke Freedom

Air's air carrier certificate. Equally, it comes amid competing interest by the Guam International Airport Authority for the airline's assets in its premises.

The assets are estimated by CDA—if auctioned—to be enough to cover the outstanding debt plus interest Freedom Air still owes CDA. That amount is some \$1.3 million, according to CDA.

Board chair Diego Songao indicated in an interview yesterday that

See **CDA** on **Page 4**

FBI joins probe into guard's fatal shooting

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has joined the Department of Public Safety's investigation into the fatal shooting of security guard James Patrick Deleon Guerrero inside a poker arcade in Afetnas.

As this developed, DPS Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero disclosed yesterday that the autopsy showed that Deleon Guerrero died of a gunshot wound to the right side of his chest.

A source at DPS said the FBI is also investigating the shooting incident because the crime involved a firearm.

In response to *Saipan Tribune's* inquiry, FBI spokesman Tom Simon yesterday confirmed that the FBI is

See **FBI** on **Page 4**

» **Autopsy shows victim died of gunshot wound to the right chest**



NEW PUMP

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Water Division personnel attach a new water pump to a new submersible motor that will pump water from a well 560 feet below ground into the Calhoun Reservoir on Navy Hill. The previous pump and motor failed, leaving CUC customers in Chinatown, Upper Navy Hill, and Upper Miha without water service.

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORP.

See story on **Page 9**

INSIDE



LOCAL

Students of the Saipan Seventh-Day Adventist School take a class trip to Taiwan.

» **PAGE 13**



NATION

Rioters plunge Baltimore into chaos due to a man's death while in police custody.

» **PAGE 15**



LIFE & STYLE

A new Vision emerges for Paul Bettany in "Avengers: Age of Ultron."

» **PAGE 19**



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Local

Igisomar wants to develop Pagan through FTZs

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold a Special Meeting on Thursday, April 30, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference Room.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS¹
- III. REPORTS
 - a. Chair's Report
 - b. Executive Director's Report
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - a. Management of Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino
- V. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Ratification of Table Movement Requests
 - b. Licensing Matters
 1. Casino Key Employee License Applications
 2. Casino Employee License Applications
 3. Hotel Registrations
 4. Casino Service Industry License Applications
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION²
- VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

¹ Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

² Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

If it were up to him, Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) would work to develop Pagan instead of handing it over to the U.S. military for live-fire training.

"We have the military trying to take over the islands and here you are sleeping...we need to do free trade zones," he told *Saipan Tribune* after speaking to the Rotary Club of Saipan yesterday at Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Igisomar said his bill, Senate Bill 19-29, aims to bring agencies together to set off the process of resettling Pagan.

SB 19-29 seeks to amend Public Law 18-16 on free trade zones so that the departments of Public Works, Public Lands, and Lands and Natural Resources, the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, and the Commonwealth Ports Authority can collaborate and cooperate with the Northern Islands mayors in identifying free trade zones on Pagan.

"Instead of just doing a resolution, I want it to become a law that they have to do, because the original law [PL 18-16] is lacking on who should coordinate it and it was lacking in pushing the matter," Igisomar said.

"These people better get their

stuff together by actually coming together and communicate with Northern Islands Mayor Jerome Aldan and initiate this so we can start free trade zones," he added.

Igisomar said that Aldan has reached out to him for his help in trying to kick-start the Northern Islands economy.

Aldan said it has been years since P.L. 18-16 was created as a tool to diversify the CNMI economy, specifically the Northern Islands. If free trade zones were identified, economic activities for diversification that are environment-friendly, suitable to tourism, related businesses, industry, and commercial activities can start.

"Funding will be a challenge, but that is something I hope we can address at a different time, but right now identifying the agencies is a priority and then they can bring up the cost," Igisomar said.

"We need to do this so we can finish the homestead acts, we need to find a way to bring the people back and resettle them. So these things are parts that need to work," he added.

When asked if this is also intended to stop the military from

acquiring Pagan, Igisomar said it isn't about stopping the military but resettling people.

"It is alternative zero [as far as the military's plans go] and it is not even a discussion," he said.

Other Northern Islands residents have also urged for the

resettlement of Pagan. Igisomar believes this bill will ease the woes of Northern Islanders.

"I want to give them infrastructure after identifying free trade zones, so there would be a reason for the people to go there. You need a reason for an economy to be built there,

so you've got to put the infrastructure there to make a living and not just live off the land," he said.

SB 19-29 was first introduced in March and is now being with the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs.

SIDE BAR

Igisomar highlights Internet, 'ice' issues at Rotary meeting



JAYSON CAMACHO

Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) talks about the various priorities he has set for his two years as senator. Igisomar was guest speaker of the Rotary Club of Saipan's meeting yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

By FRAULEINE MICHELLE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

Speaking at the Saipan Rotary Club's weekly meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan yesterday, Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) discussed his priorities for the next two years that he is in office.

Igisomar, who chairs the Senate Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communication, narrowed it down to Internet connection, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and airline issues.

Internet

For Igisomar, the "solution is in the Internet" and the way to "improve ourselves."

"I want to lower the DSL price or increase the bandwidth with the same price," he said.

Internet connection on the island is back to DSL after the federal requirement of what the speed should be for broad-

band was increased.

According to Igisomar, IT&E and Docomo cannot increase their speeds because they use copper loops.

"The future is in fiber optics. The future is on the Internet. Our children need to access all these information," he added.

CUC and airline issues

After the CUC board restructured, Igisomar said there are other matters that he is working with the corporation while Senate Bill 19-07, which seeks reforms, is still pending.

"The bottom line of course is lowering the cost for utilities," he said.

For Igisomar, one of the biggest challenges is the inter-island air transportation with Cape Air.

"We wanted to call them in, bring them in and actually find a solution. For me, if it's going to take 10 years or 20 years to solve this issue, I would rather discuss it, put it on the table

and tell the people and the government and all affected parties so that we can start planning on alternative options," he said.

War against meth

Another thing Igisomar wants to focus on is the problem of methamphetamine use on the islands.

The senator pointed out that he is not after the users but the dealers.

"The problem is the dealer. We need to find a way to stop that," Igisomar said.

He is also planning a "War on Ice Symposium" with the families and the community.

However, as Igisomar battles the use of "ice" on the island, he continues his fight for the legalization of marijuana for medical use.

Citing several states where marijuana is allowed, Igisomar said that aside from medicinal uses, "[marijuana] actually lowers the crime on other drugs like meth."

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Lawmakers OK zoning law change for Best Sunshine

By JOEL D. PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lawmakers approved a proposed amendment on a zoning law that would allow Best Sunshine International, Ltd. to establish a temporary casino in Garapan.

After a four-hour session on Capital Hill yesterday, lawmakers voted to allow the temporary "live" training facility—essentially a casino—to be set up at the T Galleria.

One amendment now allows Best Sunshine to set up the casino within 200 feet of certain establishments such as playgrounds,

parks, churches, and other establishments—instead of 300 feet as specified in Saipan Local Law 18-05, the "original" zoning law.

The former DFS Galleria, where the temporary casino will be housed, is near a playground and a basketball court.

Senate Local Bill 19-03 was approved by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations on Monday and was discussed the day after at a special SNILD session on Tuesday.

It will now be transmitted to the Governor's Office for signing.

'Deep pockets'

While discussions early on showed the dividing line between the minority and majority blocs of the delegation—which is the biggest legislative delegation in the CNMI with 21 members—the eventual vote showed 16 members supporting the amendment and four members voting against it.

One member was absent.

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), a member of the minority, cited the effort of the supporters of the proposed amendment to rush the proposed legislation.

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-

Saipan), a fellow minority bloc member, said it seems lawmakers are "bending backwards" to the whims of the casino license holder on the proposed amendment.

The questions were quickly answered by Sen. Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan), the author of SLB 19-03, who said the proposal is simply to amend the zoning law so that the casino license holder can move forward.

The discussions soon escalated after Villagomez said "deep pockets can buy legislation," while mentioning the trip that Rep. Rafael S. De-

mapan (R-Saipan) apparently took during the time that the casino law was being deliberated in the 18th Legislature.

When recognized, Rep. Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero (R-Saipan) immediately came to Demapan's defense.

"I take exception to what our colleague said," Guerrero said, adding that the Legislature should focus on where to source funds for other projects instead of debating on the zoning law amendment.

Palacios essentially echoed Guerrero's sentiments, saying he didn't appreciate Villagomez's comments, saying that he "does not give a damn if Best Sunshine has deep pockets."

Villagomez, however, clarified that he did not mean to say that the pockets of some lawmakers are being lined with money, that

what he meant was that Best Sunshine has the funds so that it can give more to the community.

Move forward

It is now expected that SLB 19-03 will be signed into law.

Palacios said the bill will be transmitted to the Office of the Governor a day after the delegation approved the bill.

Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan), who chairs the delegation, said he was able to maintain the session's order despite the heated exchange.

"These things do happen," Sablan said, after the session adjourned.

One of the lawyers of Best Sunshine, Viola Alepuyo, who was in the gallery to observe the proceedings, said the development is "good news for the community."

'Tourism, environment will be hit hard by military plan'

The administration of Gov. Eloy S. Inos reiterated its major concerns with the draft environmental impact statement on proposed "live fire" exercises on Tinian and Pagan.

In a statement, the government said "transformation, or re-branding" of the CNMI from a tourist destination into a group of islands where military "live-fire" training takes place is "worrying," considering that tourism is the Commonwealth's major economic driver.

The special use "restricted air space" requirements for the CJMT will also create significant "adverse" impacts on the flights between Saipan and Tinian and the costs of transporta-

tion between the two islands as reported in the draft EIS.

According to the government, the potential impacts to the environment raises even more questions.

One example are plans to build ramps for amphibious assault vehicles at Unai Chulu, which will result in dredging 10 acres of corals and will have direct and indirect effects up to 20 acres.

Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres said he is urging "all members of the public with concerns to join in the scheduled public hearings and make those concerns known."

Online petition

A petition against the proposed

military exercises has also been initiated online at www.change.org. The petition seeks to gather 500 signatures.

"The United States citizens of Tinian, Pagan, and the Mariana Islands have survived thousands of years and it is our human right to continue to enjoy and protect the pristine islands, ocean, and sky; a legacy entrusted to us by our ancestors," the petition said.

"The U.S. military's proposed CNMI Joint Military Training Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) contains plans that will desecrate our way of life and will have permanent NEGATIVE impacts on all facets of our community

and future generations."

"We therefore firmly oppose the plans as outlined in the DEIS and demand that the Department of Defense select the 'NO ACTION' alternative within the EIS," it added.

The online petition can be found at:

https://www.change.org/p/president-of-the-united-states-united-states-department-of-defense-u-s-house-of-representatives-u-s-senate-do-not-use-the-inhabited-us-islands-of-tinian-pagan-as-a-high-impact-bombing-range?recruiter=285805249&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=share_email_response. (Joel D. Pinaroc)

Flight disruption to the CNMI is still CPA's main concern

By JOEL D. PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

One of the main concerns of the Commonwealth Ports Authority is the possible disruption of commercial flights in and out of the CNMI if proposed military exercises on Tinian and Pagan push through.

In an interview, CPA board member Pete P. Reyes also said the authority is still reviewing the draft environmental impact

statement on the proposed "live-fire" training exercises.

He said he has read the summary of the draft EIS and that information coming to the CPA are mostly on a "piecemeal" basis.

"We do not have any scheduled meeting with the military, but the CPA is continuing to review the draft EIS," Reyes said.

He said the CPA supports the call for an extension of the review period of the draft EIS.

Reyes said he will attend the

public hearing on the draft EIS on Saipan this Wednesday, but he did not disclose if the CPA will ask questions regarding the draft EIS.

The military is set to hold hearings on the draft EIS on Saipan today, followed by a similar hearing on Tinian on Thursday. A third hearing on Saipan on Friday will conclude the comment period that the military has set for the draft EIS.

The U.S. military said it will make a decision on the extension

request after the public hearings.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos earlier wrote the request letter for the extension. He said the military has responded, saying that a decision is forthcoming after the public hearings.

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HPO aims to discuss military impact further

The Historic Preservation Office Review Board meets today to further discuss military im-

pact in the CNMI.

The board had called for special meeting about a month ago

to further discuss the effects of impending military activities on historic properties in the CNMI.

In an email yesterday, board vice chair Dr. Hiro Kurashina called today's meeting a "work-

ing session."

The board will meet at 9am at the Office of Aging conference room, *Saipan Tribune* learned. This meeting will be for a special briefing by Navy archaeologist Karen Desilet on the programmatic agreement for the CNMI Joint Military Training draft environmental impact statement.

HPO is expected to lead talks

on Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. This process requires federal agencies like the military to take into account their effects on historic properties.

At 9:30am the board moves to the Humanities Council office for the Historic Preservation Review Board to begin preparing its comments on the DEIS. (Dennis B. Chan)



'ALTERNATIVE ZERO'

The "Alternative Zero" booth at the just-concluded Flame Tree Arts Festival says "no" to the bombing of Pagan. PaganWatch has teamed up with Guardians of Gani to host "Alternative Zero," a local perspective event that will take place at the entrances to the three military Draft EIS public hearings that will take place this week on Saipan and Tinian. The group is pushing for what it calls Alternative Zero, for the peaceful and productive use of the CNMI's land and waters for the benefit of the people.

DENNIS B. CHAN

Some \$2.7M still available for small biz loan program

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Development Authority is still working on deploying some \$2.7 million left in their small business loan program ahead of a June deadline.

CDA loan manager Oscar Camacho disclosed that there are two projects he is hoping will go through that will bring the expenditure of funds past this threshold. He could not disclose more details of the projects.

About \$4 million of a potential \$13 million from the U.S. Treasury's State Small Business Initiative must be deployed at the local level right now. Eighty

percent of the \$4 million must be committed by June to receive the next batch of funds.

Right now, Camacho said they have deployed about 25 to 30 percent of these funds. But there are close to \$2 million in loans processing, he said.

If the CNMI does not meet the June deadline, two things could happen: they could request that they be permitted to go on with the program, or not, he said.

Last March, Camacho told the Saipan Chamber of Commerce that only two banks have so far been involved in the program. Yesterday, the CDA board worked on approving a resolution that would help City Trust Bank participate in the program.

Water tanks, solar panel repairs provide relief on Fais, Ulithi

YAP, Federated States of Micronesia—An extraordinary logistics challenge has brought together officials from the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Federated States of Micronesia, and Yap State government agencies, the European Union and local residents on a remote island in the north Pacific.

Forty-seven household rainwater harvesting tanks and 70 containers filled with fresh water are progressively being shipped to the edge of a coral reef surrounding Fais Island, FSM, and then floated, or "lightered" ashore.

In the wake of Typhoon Maysak, which struck FSM four weeks ago, the assistance is not only helping the island's residents recover, but will also have lasting benefits in enabling them to cope better with drought, changes in rainfall and extreme weather events in the future.

The 1,300 gallon (5000 liter) tanks are being provided to Fais residents as part of the SPC-implemented, European Union-financed, Global Climate Change Alliance: Pacific Small Island States project.

The head of the European Union Delegation for the Pacific, Ambassador Andrew Jacobs, and the director of SPC's North Pacific Regional Office, Gerald Zackios, were in Fais to see the

first water tanks arriving.

Along with Yap State government officials, they also inspected typhoon damage to solar photovoltaic micro-grid systems in Fais and Ulithi, which were installed by SPC in the framework of the North-REP project, and to take part in planning rapid repairs.

"It's great to see how the European Union is making a real difference to the lives of those affected by typhoon Maysak and increasing the resilience of their communities," Jacobs said on his first visit to Yap.

"With the expertise of SPC, and working closely with the local authorities, we are helping to provide better access to clean water and renewable electricity, and we have ensured that ongoing projects respond rapidly to new, unforeseen challenges."

Zackios highlighted the importance of the new water tanks to local communities.

"These household water tanks will be crucial in addressing issues of health and hygiene, both in the immediate aftermath of typhoon Maysak and in the longer term," Zackios said.

"In these low-lying outer islands, having greater water storage capacity is very important, as people are almost completely reliant on rainwater.

"The fortitude of the people

of these remote islands, especially after such a devastating typhoon, is inspiring, and Ambassador Jacobs and I have been humbled by the welcome they've shown us during our visit to Fais and Ulithi," Zackios added.

A technical assessment conducted at Fais, Ulithi Falalop and Ulithi Mogmog has identified the components required to restore the renewable energy power source, including replacing 210 solar modules, some electronics, 97 pieces of timber, 75 pieces of roofing iron and accessories.

Fortunately, a pump house that was erected in Fais just days before Typhoon Maysak, through the Global Climate Change Alliance project, survived intact. As part of the same project, work had been almost completed to install a solar pump and piping for an emergency well and important groundwater source for approximately 300 people on Fais.

Immediately after the typhoon, installation was completed with the help of Yap State Public Service Corporation, giving the population access to water for washing and cooking.

The director of the Yap State Resources and Development agency, Frank Haregaichig said: "I am excited because of the ongoing work that will benefit the people on this remote island but

nervous about the logistical issues and distance between the island of Yap and Fais that make the 30 June planned completion date for the installation of the water tanks a challenge for us."

"We are thankful to the EU for funding, and to SPC and the FSM Government for their substantial inputs," Haregaichig said.

Fais community representative Jesse Salalu, said: "The well and tanks being provided mean so much to the people of Fais Island. There will be enough drinking water for the people on Fais and also enough to provide for our neighboring islands during dry seasons. It also means no more sweat for hauling water from the school's main tank by women and children to their homes."

The European Union also funds the Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific program, which has components in Yap and Chuuk States, and is also implemented by SPC. Ambassador Jacobs was briefed on the Joint Action Plan for Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change developed for Yap, due to be adopted by the state government, and supported through the Building Safety and Resilience project.

The solar micro-grids, installed as part of North-REP, are expected to be fully operational again by the end of July. (SPC)

there goes the viability of the airline," he said, also acknowledging this was the context of the board's decision.

Essentially, there is an assumption that FAA will push for the revocation, he said. "Now CDA has to come in and get after the assets," he said.

Based on their findings, if CDA were to dispose of these assets, it would be worth more than the outstanding balance of the loan. On top of this, CDA also has other securities, outside the personal security of the owner of Freedom Air like real property, according to the director in an interview last week.

FBI

From Page 1

assisting DPS police in their investigation of the shooting.

"It remains a police investigation," Simon said.

He said any comments regarding the case should come from the police.

Guam chief medical examiner Dr. Aurelio Espinola did the autopsy on Deleon Guerrero's remains at the Commonwealth Health Center's morgue on Monday.

Espinola was reportedly summoned to the crime scene last April 21 where he pronounced the victim dead.

At that time, Espinola was

about to leave for Guam after doing an autopsy on the body of Ana Maria Limes, who was killed inside her house in Oleai. The body was found last April 20.

Deleon Guerrero was on duty at Royal Poker in Afetnas when a masked man entered the establishment and shot him with a handgun.

Police discovered Deleon Guerrero's body in the bathroom. A female cashier was also shot at but she was not hit as she had locked herself and ducked inside the cashier's booth. The suspect failed to get any money and fled on foot, police said.

Sources said police are pursuing "good leads" on the identity of the masked gunman.

MATHEWSON

From Page 1

In Mathewson's motion for examination, Sato asked the Superior Court to appoint a psychiatrist as an expert witness, to conduct a psychiatric evaluation of the defendant and prepare a report.

Sato said a psychiatrist is needed to determine whether Mathewson was suffering from a mental illness at the time of the offense.

"Whenever a plea of not guilty by reason of mental illness, disease, or defect is entered or notice is given pursuant to the Commonwealth Rule of Criminal Procedure the court shall appoint at least one qualified psychiatrist or other mental health professional to examine the defendant and report upon his mental condition," the defense lawyer said, citing law.

Sato said that since Mathewson has been found indigent, the law requires the government to pay for the appointed psychiatrist.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho will hear the motion for mental examination today, Wednesday, at 1:30pm.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Mathewson with attempted first-degree murder, aggravated assault and battery, and assault with a dangerous weapon.

Mathewson, a farmer/fisherman, allegedly stabbed the 60-year-old Claassens in the neck with a fishing spear and clubbed him on the head with a big pot and chain.

The brutal attack happened in the backyard of the doctor's house in Teneto Village on Rota last April 4. The doctor is now slowly recovering from the attack and there are plans to move him to Hawaii for further rehabilitation.

CDA

From Page 1

CDA's push for foreclosure would leave it up to a court to decide "who has the rights" to these assets.

Right now, the Guam airport feels CDA has "no jurisdiction" over the chattel mortgage or aircraft and properties sitting on its premises, Songao said.

"But as we proceed with the foreclosure, the judges will make that decision as to whether who has got the right to access or ownership on those mortgages because we have direct lien" on them, he said.

He explained this was a "question of ownership." And that's why they will proceed with the foreclosure.

"We want some answers by the court," he said.

Saipan Tribune earlier revealed that the Guam airport had found CDA's lien to Freedom Air assets to be imperfect. This was communicated by GIAA executive manager Charles Ada to CDA earlier this month.

GIAA essentially found that CDA had not perfected its security interests in these assets, mainly because CDA did not file a financial statement, or UCC filing, with the Guam Revenue and Tax.

According to GIAA, their failure to do so made CDA's security filings with FAA moot because state law determines lien priorities. GIAA now believes it has priority over CDA. It was gathered that Ada explicitly stated an intention to proceed with the sale of Freedom Air property located within the Guam airport premises.

On the FAA revocation, Songao indicated that even if the airline aims to appeal the FAA decision, CDA has "to get ready and secure the liens we have."

Separately, CDA executive director Manuel Sablan said "it's up to the FAA now."

"If they yank the license, then

CDA approves Ocean Vista's qualifying certificate

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Development Authority board of directors approved yesterday the qualifying certificate application of Ocean Vista Resort, with a requirement that it doles out \$150,000 in public contributions every year, among others.

Team Talaabwogh StaR joins this year's MMAC

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Talaabwogh StaR team will be joining the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer, the signature fundraising event of the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

The non-profit organization, made up of residents of Tanapag and youths and members of the Santa Remedios Parish, will be joining the MMAC for the third straight year.

Talaabwogh StaR's vision is to focus on positive impacts within their village, Tanapag, and make it more accessible and available to not only their youth but all residents.

They hope to prevent the youth and community members from substance abuse such as alcohol, tobacco and other illicit drugs that lead to negative habits.

Team captain Rep. Vinnie Sablan (Ind-Saipan) said their approach has always been to

tors approved yesterday the qualifying certificate application of Ocean Vista Resort, with a requirement that it doles out \$150,000 in public contributions every year, among others.

The board emerged from an executive session of nearly five hours to begin the vote on the certificate. A similar vote two weeks ago failed to approve or reject the application.

Ocean Vista Resort proposes to build a reported \$46-million, 144-room hotel on Capital Hill.

Yesterday, the board voted unanimously on the resort's application with specific requirements.

One requirement, as described by board member Tom Glenn Quitugua, would be a "cultural historical preservation aspect" to be included in their project.

A second stipulation would be an annual \$150,000 public contribution to be directed to CDA for the agency's sole intent to provide more services to

guide the youth to build character, citizenship, principles, and values through faith-based teachings as well as positive community service.

"Though a small community, cancer caused by the use of tobacco, alcohol, and other substances has profoundly impacted the lives of many in our village of Talaabwogh [Tanapag]," Sablan said.

"Our involvement in MMAC is one of the best ways to help support and raise funds for the fight against cancer. Additionally, in accordance with our goals and objectives, the MMAC is the perfect avenue to effectively spread the message of prevention. We will be dedicating our participation in memory of those in our village who have gone and to those still battling and continuing the fight," he added.

This year's event will be held at the Hopwood Junior High School field this Friday and Saturday.

Terminated CUC worker sues for alleged hostile workplace

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A terminated Commonwealth Utilities Corp. employee is suing the agency in federal court, saying he was subjected to a hostile work place, such as placing a cockroach on his desk and other employees calling him "gay."

Zaji O. Zajradhara is suing CUC, executive director Allan Fletcher, and 10 unnamed co-defendants for whistleblower/wrongful termination, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

In a complaint he filed without a lawyer, Zajradhara is demanding unspecified damages and court costs.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from Fletcher but he had yet to reply as of press time.

Zajradhara said that CUC initially hired him as a trades technician/operator in October 2012, but he was moved into various positions, including warehouse man, fuel handler, and troubleshooter for the Water Division.

He said that CUC terminated him on Oct. 24, 2014, on the pretext that he had been caught in possession of illegal drugs, in violation of CUC drug and alcohol policy.

Zajradhara said he became aware of various violations of public policies, laws, regulations, and policies committed by the defendants during his

employment.

One was misuse of federal funds by diverting federal money out of programs it had been granted for to cover other CUC expenses, he said.

He said he complained to Fletcher and others at CUC regarding these violations but, instead, the executive director allowed a hostile work place to develop to try to force him to quit.

Zajradhara said a racially offensive poster was installed in the workplace, a cockroach was put on his desk, and employees called him "gay" and other slurs.

The plaintiff said he complained of mistreatment to Fletcher and other management officials, but the complaints were ignored.

He said when he refused to quit his job, the defendants attempted to terminate him on the pretext that he had hit a co-worker. Zajradhara said his termination failed because it was established that the allegation of assault was untrue.

He said the defendants succeeded in terminating him on Oct. 24, 2014, by accusing him of trying to sell marijuana to an off-duty police officer. He said the defendants knew the allegation lacked merit but seized upon it to justify his termination.

Zajradhara also claimed he suffers from disability as he has post-traumatic stress disorder, bipolar disorder, and an injury on his right shoulder and upper back.



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TO GET DECEASED HUSBAND'S RETIREMENT BENEFITS

Common-law wife of 35 years sues to be treated as spouse

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A common-law wife for 35 years of a retiree who passed away is suing the CNMI government and the NMI Retirement Fund for allegedly not giving her retirement benefits as a "surviving spouse."

Joaquina Reyes Santos, through counsel Juan T. Lizama, asked the Superior Court to order the NMI Retirement Fund to treat her as a spouse under the Retirement Law.

Santos asked the court to declare as unconstitutional as applied to Santos the law that defines "spouse" as someone who is legally married.

She demanded an award of attorney's fees.

Lizama stated in the complaint that Santos and Cristin

Cabrera Duenas lived together as common law wife and husband from 1974 until the latter died in 2009.

Lizama said that during the time of their uninterrupted cohabitation, the common law spouses handled themselves in the same manner as married couples by comingling and sharing their incomes, holding themselves as husband and wife before friends and relatives, bearing eight children together, and maintaining their home as a conjugal home.

Duenas was employed by the CNMI government for 28 years beginning at the time when the common-law couple began living together.

In 2002, Duenas retired and began to receive his retirement benefits. In April 2009, he died.

Lizama said that in 2014 the Retirement Fund decided to al-

low surviving spouses to claim and withdraw retirement contributions of their deceased spouses.

As the surviving spouse of Duenas, Santos has neither received any benefits prior to nor after the Retirement Fund's amendment in 2014 to allow surviving spouses to claim and withdraw retirement contributions of their deceased spouses, Lizama said.

He said the Retirement Fund apparently did not consider Santos eligible because the law defines "spouse" as one who is legally married.

In 2007, Lizama said, the Legislature passed Public Law 15-69 after determining that there is no legitimate interest in discriminating spouses in a common-law situation from those who are legally married.

Under the newly enacted law, Lizama said, no distinction was

given by the Legislature in the treatment of employee's "legal or common-law spouses."

"The laws of common laws are part of CNMI laws under the Covenant and the support

of common-law spouses under general common laws have grown over the years in the more than the majority of states of the United States," he said.

As applied to Santos, the lawyer said, the law violates the equal protection clause of the CNMI Constitution and the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

He asserted that Santos is entitled to a mandatory injunction that the Fund deems her a spouse entitled to the benefits under the retirement law.

Lizama said that Santos is entitled to the benefits from the time Duenas died until the present, the amount of which will be proven in court.

Pacific health officials renew goals for regional health

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther Muna lauded the successful meeting of the 11th Pacific Health Ministers held recently in Fiji.

The meeting solely focused on the Healthy Islands Journey project that was forged 20 years ago to improve the health of Pacific islanders.

The meeting was held on April 15 to 17 with the hope that health officials in the region would address specific issues, set target dates, and try to meet their goals before the deadlines.

The health of people in the Pacific has improved in the last 20 years but progress has been slow compared to other parts of the world. This could result in the Pacific region falling behind on the healthcare needs of its people.

In the meeting that drew the participation of the World Health Organization, the CNMI, Guam, more than 10 Pacific island nations, special participants, observers, consultants, and secretariats, everyone agreed that increased coordination is needed to address the vi-

sion of "Healthy Islands" for its 20th anniversary.

These include five visions where (1) children are nurtured in body and mind; (2) environments invite learning and leisure; (3) people work and age with dignity; (4) ecological balance is a source of pride; and (5) the ocean, which sustains us, is protected.

"They had all the Pacific health leaders come to the meeting to decide if the declaration that was made 20 years ago should continue or if we're going to add something else," Muna said.

"We decided that we wanted to go ahead and continue with it. There were some improvements since the declaration 20 years ago, but we still need to do more. With that declaration, WHO will go to the regional office and meet with the head of WHO on what the Pacific islands need," she added.

Funding and support will then be included into WHO's budget to support the Healthy Islands initiative.

"What we added this time to

the declaration are target dates and trying to decide whether it should be regional or incorporated for the entire islands," Muna said.

When asked if there were any target dates for the CNMI, Muna conceded that there wasn't any target date yet.

"What we decided is to come up with our own target date in the CNMI. What we need to do is to work with someone on statistics and look at the current data and basically put a specific target date on what we're going to do for a specific issue within those years," she said.

One of the biggest issues on island is non-communicable diseases. However, despite all the talks on NCDs, it just keeps rising.

"So what are we doing? We need outcomes and the healthy islands is catered to promoting the project," Muna said.

CHCC is looking into possibly reopening the Transitional Living Center and possibly having a home for people that need caretakers for mental health.

(Jayson Camacho)

May is Women's Health Month

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. will be celebrating the month of May as CNMI Women's Health Month to encourage women to become the primary caretaker of their health.

CHCC will be joining health organizations across the nation to celebrate National Women's Health Month by urging women across the world to undergo regular health check-ups.

CHCC chief executive officer

Esther Muña said there will be a proclamation signing on May 4 to kick off the celebration.

The goal is to empower women to make their health a priority. This intends to help women understand what steps they can take to improve their health.

As part of Women's Health Month, May 11—the day after Mother's Day on May 10—has been designated as National Women's Check-up Day at the

Women's Clinic of the Commonwealth Health Center.

Women are urged to discuss with their health care professionals which of the tests are right for them, when they should have them, and how often.

Maintaining regular check-ups is one of five health habits that can improve a woman's health. The others include physical activity, a healthy diet, not smoking, and following general safety rules. (Jayson Camacho)



COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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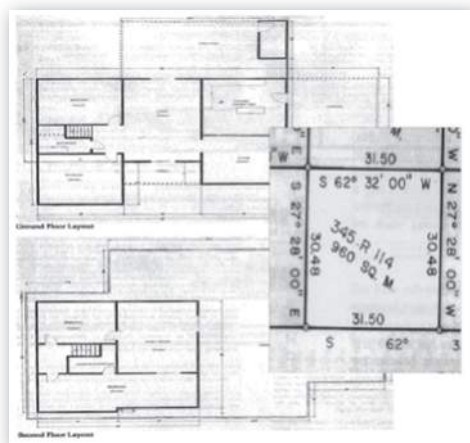


NOTICE OF SALE

The Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) hereby gives notice that it is seeking interested buyers, bids and proposals for the fee simple purchase or the leasing of its foreclosed property located in Sinapalo, Rota. Asking price is \$150,000. Deadline to submit offers is Thursday, April 30, 2015. Award will be based on best offer.



2 storey concrete house; 2,865 sq. ft. dwelling area in Sinapalo, Rota



Please call our office on Rota at 532-9408 or Saipan at 234-6245 ext. 306 or 310 for more information on the property and to inquire about our Fee Simple Purchase and Ground Lease Option to Purchase Programs or check our website at www.developcnmi.com.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR THE CNMI JOINT MILITARY TRAINING DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The U.S. military announces the availability of the CNMI Joint Military Training Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas EIS (OEIS) for public review. The Draft EIS/OEIS evaluates the potential impacts associated with the establishment of a series of live-fire ranges, training courses and maneuver areas in the CNMI (Tinian and Pagan) to reduce existing joint service training deficiencies and meet U.S. Pacific Command Service Components' unfilled unit and combined level training requirements in the Western Pacific. Existing military training areas and support facilities in the Western Pacific, particularly those in the CNMI are insufficient to support U.S. military training requirements. U.S. military training capabilities and capacity improvements are needed in the CNMI to ensure that the U.S. military can meet their U.S. Code Title 10 requirements to maintain, equip, and train combat and humanitarian forces in the Western Pacific.

The publication of the Notice of Public Meetings in the Federal Register on April 3, 2015 initiates the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) public comment period for the CNMI Joint Military Training Draft EIS/OEIS. Comments on the Draft EIS/OEIS may be submitted during the 60-day public comment period starting on April 3, 2015 Hawaii Standard Time (HST) (April 4, 2015 Chamorro Standard Time [ChST]). Comments should be postmarked or received by June 2, 2015 HST (June 3, 2015 ChST). Government agencies, private-sector organizations, and the public are encouraged to participate in the NEPA process and public meetings for the Draft EIS/OEIS. The U.S. Marine Corps on behalf of U.S. Pacific Command will host public meetings on Saipan and Tinian.

The public is invited to attend the following public meetings:

SAIPAN:

• Wednesday, April 29, 2015
Saipan Southern High School Cafeteria
5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

• Friday, May 1, 2015
Garapan Elementary School Cafeteria
5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

TINIAN:

• Thursday, April 30, 2015
Tinian Junior Senior High School Cafeteria
5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Each meeting will begin with an open house session where the public can learn more about the proposed action and potential environmental impacts from project team members and subject matter experts. A public hearing will follow the open house. In the interest of available time, participants will be limited to three minutes to ensure all who wish to submit verbal comments have an opportunity to do so. A Chamorro and Carolinian interpreter will be available.

Concurrent with the NEPA process, the U.S. military is conducting National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 consultation regarding potential effects of the proposed action on historic properties. During each of the above meetings, the U.S. military will hold NHPA Section 106 information sessions in a separate area where subject matter experts will explain the NHPA Section 106 process and solicit public input on the effects of the proposed action on historic properties.

There are three ways to submit written comments: (1) providing comments at one of the public meetings; (2) submitting comments through the project website: www.CNMIJointMilitaryTrainingEIS.com; and (3) mailing comments postmarked by June 3, 2015 ChST to:

Mail comments to: Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific
Attn: 09PA, Public Affairs Office
258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100
JBPHH, HI 96860-3134

Bakery closed down for injury in fire incident

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services on Saturday issued an order stopping the operation of a bakery in Susupe due to a fire that injured an employee.

DFEMS spokesman Derek

Gersonde said yesterday that Chow Queen Bakery was closed down until the violations are rectified and verified through follow up inspections.

Gersonde said the bakery was inspected and it was con-

cluded that its baking activities were unsafe.

Saipan Tribune repeatedly contacted yesterday the owner of Chow Queen Bakery to get her side, but she could not be reached. As of press

time, she had yet to return the newspaper's call.

Gersonde said the stop order was issued after an incident in which a bakery employee was injured in a fire at the establishment.

Gersonde said the employee's injury and its cause were not immediately reported to authorities.

He said in an interview with the victim at the Commonwealth Health Center's emergency room, arson investigators learned that the victim received burns at his workplace.

Arson investigators then conducted follow-up investigation and inspected the workplace.

"Further information on the victim's injuries will be released through CHCC. Inspection updates on this matter will be released as they become available," the spokesman said. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Japanese govt offers scholarship for US citizens

By FRAULEINE MICHELLE S. VILLANUEVA
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Qualified students who wish to study or do research in Japan may be granted scholarship as

the Japanese government is offering funding for education, the Consulate-General of Japan in Hagatna, Guam announced.

Through the Japanese Ministry of Education, Sports, Sci-

ence and Technology (MEXT) Scholarship Program for 2016, students may apply for undergraduate studies, specialized training, and research.

Five- and three-year schol-

arships are being offered for studies at a university and specialized training colleges, respectively.

Specialized training colleges field of study majors include Technology, Education and Welfare, Business, and Culture and General Education, among others.

With the exception of those who will be doing research in the field of Japanese language or Japanese studies, proficiency in the Japanese language is not required.

Only applicants for research studies will be required to take an English and Japanese proficiency test. However, those who wish to apply in universities as undergraduate students and in

colleges for specialized training must be willing to learn the Japanese language and receive education in the same way.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens. University and specialized training colleges applicants must be born between April 2, 1994, and April 1, 1999, and have either completed a 12-year regular course of school education or graduated from a school equivalent to senior high school in Japan.

Those who wish to do research must be born on or after April 2, 1981, and be a university graduate at the time of participation in the program.

Applicants must also be willing to leave for and arrive in

Japan between April 1 and 7, 2016, or, for research students, within two weeks of the date set by the receiving university for the beginning of the semester.

Research students must also pursue studies in the same or related field they majored as an undergraduate as well as be able to obtain a letter of acceptance from a professor at the Japanese university they wish to enter.

Applications must be received at the Consulate-General of Japan in Hagatna, Guam, no later than June 15. For other requirements and further information, interested parties may email cgigum@ag.mofa.go.jp or call 646-1290.

'Install proper regs before sanctioning and funding NMTI'

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI State Board of Education and Public School System have shared with the House of Representatives their concerns over a bill that would fund and sanction the Northern Marianas Technical Institute as a government body.

House Bill 19-52 amends current law to add the Northern Marianas College and the Northern Marianas Technical Institute as recipients of funds generated from the government's gross revenue tax, among other purposes.

The board and PSS are concerned that NMTI would be recognized by the Higher Education Commission "before any regulations were in place" that ensured accreditation and other essentials for a school.

"We continue in our concern

about the lack of oversight for NMTI as they stand to be made an institution but without first defining what is an institution in the Commonwealth. We continue to urge the Legislature to first create regulations governing the Higher Education Commission and those under its umbrella before sanctioning the NMTI as a higher education institution," board chair Herman Guerrero and acting education commissioner Glenn Muna wrote in their joint letter.

The board and PSS also noted how the bill would make NMTI a "quasi-agency" of the government.

This would be "problematic," Guerrero and Muna wrote.

The board and PSS believe, though, that if the Legislature were to fund NMTI, they should fund it as a program and not as a government body.

First, they explained that the bill seeks to fund an institution that does not exist yet in a form necessary to be funded by the Legislature. Even if recognition by the Higher Education Commission is contemplated, "it has not happened yet," PSS and the board explained.

Second, PSS and the board said that NMTI should not be funded as an agency because there are no rules to date governing its operation or existence.

"It is our firm belief that the Legislature should take a step back and allow the proper rules to be in place before continuing to fund, create, and sanction NMTI. This will ensure that the children of the CNMI are offered the highest caliber of education possible by an institution that is complying with the standards that are appropriately created by Legislature."

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ANNOUNCEMENT

WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines 2015-2016

On March 31, 2015, a Notice announcing the revised WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines was published in the Federal Register. The adjusted income eligibility guidelines are used by State agencies in determining the income eligibility of persons applying to participate in the WIC Program. **The CNMI WIC Program will be implementing the new guidelines effective May 1, 2015.** Please check to see if you now qualify.

To be eligible on the basis of income, applicants' gross income (i.e. before taxes are withheld) must fall at or below 185 percent of the U.S. Poverty Income Guidelines (see below).

WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines
(Effective from May 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016)
48 Contiguous States, D.C., Guam and Territories

| | Annual | Monthly | Twice-Monthly | Bi-Weekly | Weekly |
|-----------------------|----------|---------|---------------|-----------|--------|
| 1 | \$21,775 | \$1,815 | \$908 | \$838 | \$419 |
| 2 | 29,471 | 2,456 | 1,228 | 1,134 | 567 |
| 3 | 37,167 | 3,098 | 1,549 | 1,430 | 715 |
| 4 | 44,863 | 3,739 | 1,870 | 1,726 | 863 |
| 5 | 52,559 | 4,380 | 2,190 | 2,022 | 1,011 |
| 6 | 60,255 | 5,022 | 2,511 | 2,318 | 1,159 |
| 7 | 67,951 | 5,663 | 2,832 | 2,614 | 1,307 |
| 8 | 75,647 | 6,304 | 3,152 | 2,910 | 1,455 |
| Each Add'l Member Add | +\$7,696 | +\$642 | +\$321 | +\$296 | +\$148 |

A person or certain family members who participate in other benefits programs, such as the Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly the Food Stamp Program), or Medicaid automatically meet the income eligibility requirement. For more information, please call the WIC Clinic at 664-4084.

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If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (in Spanish).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

"Healthy Families for a Lifetime."

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Karidat closed from April 29 to May 1

This is to inform the general public that Karidat will be closed on April 29 through May 1, 2015 as we relocate to our new office in Chalan Piao. The phone lines will also be relocated. For any urgent matters you may call the Victim Hotline at 234-5100 during this time. We greatly appreciate your patience and understanding. *(Karidat)*

Registration at Kagman High

Kagman High School registration is ongoing for school year 2015-2016. All KHS students—new and returning—must submit a registration form to the school registrar for record updates. Registration and requirements for ongoing KHS students will be given out during Homeroom on May 9, 2015.

Ongoing students must clear obligations at the library in order to be issued a free Yearbook and receive official transcripts.

New students can pick up a registration form from the main office. Parents and guardians must complete and sign the forms and submit all required documents to the registrar office no later than June 9, 2015, from 7:30am to 4:30pm.

For more information, call Bernie Babauta at 237-3886. *(KHS)*

Kindergarten registration at SVES

San Vicente Elementary School

registration for school year 2015-2016 is scheduled to begin on May 26-29, 2015 for (Kindergarten ONLY) from 9am to 1pm in the school main office.

For all incoming Kindergarten students:

Child must be 5 years on or before Sept. 30, 2010 as per BOE policy. Date of birth must be between Sept. 1, 2009 and Sept. 30, 2010.

Registration requirements include a copy of birth certificate; original health certificate (from public health or any private clinic); updated medical insurance (Medicaid, any government insurance or accidental insurance; map of residential location; copy of power of attorney/legal guardianship (if applicable); copy of report card or certificate of completion (from any pre-school)

For more information, contact 664-3981 through 84 or 237-3791. *(SVES)*

GES registration schedule, requirements

Garapan Elementary School announces its registration information for the coming new school year, 2015-2016.

Requirements for new students include birth certificate; school entrance health certificate from CHC or a private clinic (If you have an appointment slip, provide the school with a copy showing the appointment date); copy of updated health

insurance (Medicaid or private insurance); map to residence.

Child must be 5 years old to enter Kindergarten by Sept. 30, 2015. Dates of birth must be on or before Sept. 30, 2010.

Child must be 6 years old to enter first grade by Sept. 30, 2015. Dates of birth must be before Sept. 30, 2009.

Kindergarten registration will begin on May 4, 2015, from 8:30am to 4:00pm in the GES Library.

New students' registration for grades 1 to 6 will begin on June 24, 2015.

For more information call GES at telephone number 237-3341/3343/3345. *(GES)*

CCA reschedules board meeting

The Commonwealth Cancer Association regular board of directors meeting has been rescheduled for Tuesday, May 5, 2015, at 3pm at the CCA conference room in Gualo Rai. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. *(CCA)*

VA Benefits workshop on Thursday

The U.S. Department of Veterans Benefits Administration will be conducting a Veterans Benefits workshop on April 29, 2015, from 10am to 4pm, at the Pedro

P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center on Saipan. A benefits counselor will provide a VA benefits presentation and will also be available to answer questions and take claims. Points of contact are Ruth Coleman, 322-0035; Greg Borja, 1-671-648-0090/0091; or Bernie Dela Cruz, 664-2650. *(Saipan VA Outreach Clinic)*

Tinian seatbelt checkpoints

The Tinian Department of Public Safety would like to inform the general public that the Traffic Section will be conducting DUI/sobriety checkpoints on the dates and time listed below:

■ Wednesday, April 29, 2015, 11am to 12:15pm—east-bound lane by the baseball field.

■ Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 11am to 12:15pm—eastbound lane by the baseball field.

■ Friday, May 15, 2015, 11am to 12:15pm—southbound lane on Broadway by the Natibu Park.

■ Monday, May 25, 2015, 11am to 12:15pm—east bound lane by the baseball field; 4pm to 5:15pm—southbound lane by the Youth Center *(DPS)*

Call for local artists to join FESTPAC

The Northern Mariana Islands Festival of Pacific Arts Organizing Committee is soliciting response from CNMI artisans interested in participating in the 2016 Festival of Pacific Arts in Guam. The committee is asking groups and individuals interested in representing the NMI in any of the following categories to contact the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture (CCAC) by Tuesday (April 28): Performing Arts, Literary Arts, Demonstrations/Exhibits, and Forums, Workshops and Seminars. For more information, contact Feofaaki McMahon at CCAC at fe_mcmahon@yahoo.com or 670.322.9982/3. *(PR)*

THOMPSON LAW OFFICE, LLC

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Saipan, MP 96950

Telephone No.: (670) 233-0777

Facsimile No.: (670) 233-0776

Attorney for Plaintiffs

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT

FOR THE

COMMONWEALTH OF THE

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

RICARDO E. ANTONIO, as Guardian

Ad Litem for ALDRIC JON H.

ANTONIO, a minor and ALMA I.

HABOS,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

HAENG C. BAEK and DOES I-V.

Defendant.

TO: DEFENDANTS, HAENG C. BAEK and DOES I-V

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to appear and defend the claims presented in this Amended Complaint, a copy of which is given you herewith, within twenty (20) days after service of this Amended Summons upon you and deliver or mail a copy of your Responsive Pleading to the Plaintiffs' counsel whose address is at Thompson Law Office, LLC, 2nd Floor JET Building, PMB 917, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your Responsive Pleading.

Your Responsive Pleading to the Amended Complaint should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, CNMI. It may be prepared and signed by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by electronic filing or by messenger or mail. It is not necessary to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to appear and defend in accordance with this Amended Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in this Amended Complaint.

By Order of the Court

Date: December 10, 2014

/s/ CLERK OF COURT

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 29, 2013

'Dynasty underreporting receipts or getting cash from other means'

Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino was either underreporting its reportable cash receipts or is receiving large amounts of cash through other unidentified means, according to Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation special agent Todd M. Peterson. In his declaration, Peterson said the Currency Transaction Report, or CTR, filings by Tinian Dynasty, and Bank of Guam and Bank of Saipan where it conducts banking activities, seem to indicate that Tinian Dynasty was "extremely cash negative." Federal law requires that a CTR be filed with the IRS by financial institutions, including casinos, for any cash transaction over \$10,000.

Man allegedly tries to have sex with godson

A Rota liaison employee was arrested Sunday morning for allegedly trying to have sex with his 21-year-old godson inside a vehicle in As Lito. Police said the victim managed to run to a jungle where he hid for several hours. Allan Apatang Taitano, 43, was taken to Superior Court yesterday for a bail hearing. Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho found probable cause to arrest Taitano for disturbing the peace but no probable cause for sexual assault in the second degree. He set Taitano's bail at \$500 cash. Police detective Israel M. De Leon stated in his report that a police officer responded to an apartment in As Lito after receiving a call about sexual assault case.

April 29, 2011

Missing canoeist found alive after extensive search

A missing canoeist was found alive and in good condition after a four-day, multi-agency search, approximately 350 miles southwest of Guam, Thursday. The mariner was found on Federaci Island in the Ulithi Atoll by fishermen from Yap State in the Federated States of Micronesia. He was transferred to the crew of the Coast Guard Cutter Washington and is scheduled to return to his home on Fais Island. Sector Guam watchstanders were notified Monday that the canoeist had not returned from a fishing trip as scheduled on Saturday. An HC-130 Hercules aircraft from Air Station Barbers Point, Hawaii and a U.S. Navy P-3 Orion long-range search aircraft from Okinawa, Japan were launched on Monday to assist in the search.

Man found guilty of 10 'ice' charges

Qun Yu, a 47-year-old Chinese national tagged by authorities as a big-time "ice" supplier, yesterday was found guilty of all 10 charges that carry a total maximum penalty of 92 years in jail. After deliberating for about five hours, the six jurors rendered a guilty verdict on Yu on two counts of trafficking of a controlled substance, one count of conspiracy to commit trafficking of a controlled substance, and three counts of assault with a dangerous weapon. Superior Court Associate Judge David Wiseman, who decided the four charges, also found Yu guilty of two counts of possession of a controlled substance, one count of obstruction of justice, and one count of resisting arrest.

April 29, 2008

Man gets 90 days for assaulting park ranger

The federal court yesterday imposed a 90-day prison term on a man who assaulted a park ranger at the Outer Cove Marina area. After serving his sentence, Prisco Ongrung will be placed on one year of supervised release. U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson said that among the conditions of his supervised release is that Ongrung shall provide advance notice by telephone to the American Memorial Park's personnel of his intention to enter the park for the duration of U.S. Park Ranger Sam Martinsen's tour of duty. The judge ordered Ongrung to pay a \$202 restitution to the U.S. Department of Labor Worker's Compensation Program. He also required the defendant to pay a \$25 special assessment fee.

Group looks at human trafficking in the NMI

A representative of Shared Hope International is now on island to do a study on human trafficking in the CNMI as part of a larger study on child sex trafficking and exploitation in 10 sites across the United States. The study is being funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice. SHI director of programs Samantha Vardaman will meet with agencies that deal with juvenile welfare issues to get a handle on the number of victims by nationalities, ethnicities, or groups and then identify why it is happening to certain groups more than others. Vardaman said that statistics do not exist right now and part of SHI's assessment is to come up with numbers.

PTC

PACIFIC TRADING COMPANY, LTD.

P.O. Box 500236 Saipan MP 96950

Tel: (670) 322 -6624/5483 Fax: (670) 322-5616

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Job Title: Computer Network Support Specialist

Provide technical assistance to computer users. Answer questions or resolve computer problems. The employee may provide assistance concerning the use of computer hardware and software, including printing, installation, word processing, electronic mail, and operating systems.

Tasks

• Oversee the daily performance of computer systems

• Configure wide area network (WAN) or local area network (LAN) routers or related equipment.

• Identify and troubleshoot the causes of networking or connectivity problems for users or user groups using diagnostic testing software and equipment.

• Provide telephone support related to networking or connectivity issues.

• Evaluate local area network (LAN) or wide area network (WAN) performance data to ensure sufficient availability or speed, to identify network problems, or for disaster recovery purposes.

• Analyze network data to determine network usage, disk space availability, or server function.

• Install network software or equipment for employee use, performing or ensuring proper installation of cables, operating systems, or appropriate software.

• Maintain records of daily data communication transactions, problems and remedial actions taken, or installation activities.

• Read technical manuals, confer with users, or conduct computer diagnostics to investigate and resolve problems or to provide technical assistance and support.

• Perform routine maintenance or standard repairs to networking components or equipment.

• Refer major hardware or software problems or defective products to vendors or technicians for service.

• Run monthly network reports.

• Responsible for generating daily inventory transfer reports; monthly itemized sales report and other reports as requested by management.

• Research hardware or software products to meet technical networking or security needs.

• Performs other related duties as assigned.

Skills and Qualifications:

Problem solving skill, Time Management and Organization Skill, Written and Verbal Communication Skill, System Analysis and Troubleshooting Skills, Analytical Thinking skill.

Qualification Requirement

Any combination equivalent to graduation with an Associate's degree plus five years of related work experience.

PTC offers a competitive salary to correspond with experience and qualification. Interested person may pick up an employment application at our office in Puerto Rico. Deadline for submission is no later than 5:00pm on May 4, 2015.

Pacific Trading Company is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Pump failure results in Navy Hill water outage

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is working to replace two failed deep well pumps that provide water to customers in Chinatown, Upper Navy Hill, and Upper Miha.

The pump failure was detected on Tuesday morning during a routine check of the Calhoun reservoir on Navy Hill performed by Water Watch personnel who observed the water levels in the tank were low. The resulting inspection of the on-site pump house revealed neither of the two pumps were functioning.

Operations personnel began removing the pumps Tuesday morning using cranes to extract the nearly 600 feet of pipe for each pump. The pumps are used in two of the deepest wells CUC operates on Saipan and the depth adds to the difficulty of the retrieval and replacement process.

"These are high production wells and they are very deep. It takes us a half-day to remove one of the pumps and another half-day to put the new one back in there," said Water Operations supervisor Bernard Keremius.

CUC expects one of the two pumps to return to service Tuesday evening. Work on the second pump will resume Wednesday morning with crews expected to finish the replacement and reinstallation Wednesday evening.

Service to the area will re-

main limited as the pumps feed each of the 500,000-gallon tanks that service the area over the next few days

Service restored in Dandan

Regular water service has been restored in Dandan after a pump failure resulted in limited service over the weekend. CUC

water crews first responded to customer calls about a water outage in Dandan Friday evening. The resulting inspection of the 500,000-gallon Dandan reservoir revealed water levels had dropped to three feet inside the tank.

Crews identified a failed pump near the airport as the source of the problem. The

pump is an integral part of the system that treats and pushes water from nearby wells to the Dandan tank.

While the pump was out of service, water storage levels in the Dandan tank could not replenished. CUC crews completed the replacement of the pump and motor Saturday afternoon; however, it took approximately

36 hours before water levels in the Dandan tank were restored to the 17 feet necessary to provide quality service to CUC customers in the area.

For more information about the outages in Dandan or Navy Hill, contact the CUC Water Division at (670) 322-5030/31 or the Call Center at 664-4CUC (4282). (CUC)

7th Piano Concert to benefit Chuuk kids

Yonsei Academy will be hosting its 7th Piano Concert, this time as a fundraising effort for children in Chuuk who were affected by Typhoon Maysak.

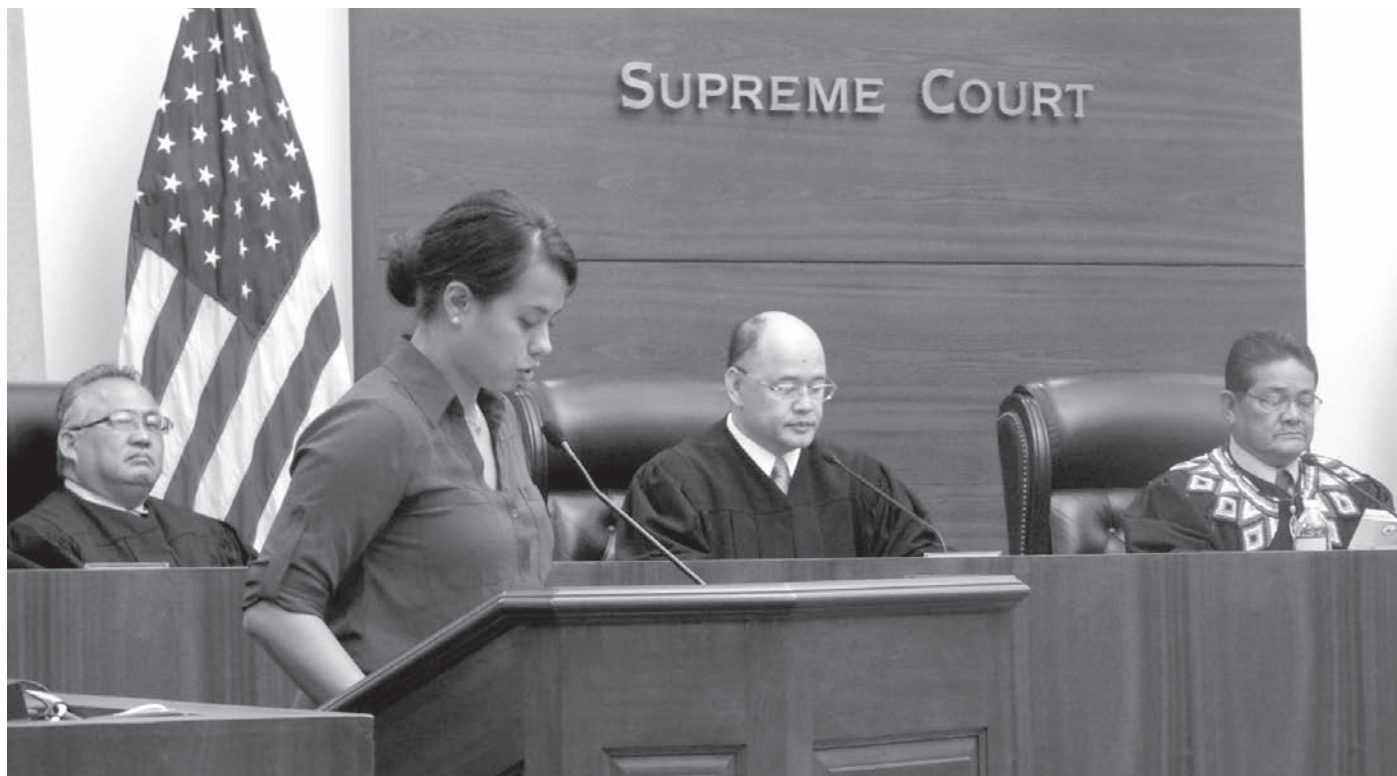
The piano concert will be held on May 2, 2015, a Saturday, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

Section I featuring 1st to 8th grade students will start at 5pm; Section II featuring 9th to 12th grade students will start at 7pm. Section II will also feature Guam TBMF gold medalists, a piano battle, CHC music volunteers, Saipan Junior Choir.

The concert ticket costs \$5 and can be purchased at the entrance door on that day.

At previous fundraising concerts, the school raised \$1,454 for PSS in 2012 and \$625 for typhoon victims in the Philippines in 2014.

The main purposes for Yonsei Academy concert is to improve students musical talents, encourage creativity, and "Learn to Give" by donating to those in need. (Yonsei)



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

LAW DAY SPEECH

Marianas High School senior English teacher Gretchen Decker, an alumna of the Judiciary's summer pre-law program, delivers her remarks during the proclamation signing for Law Day and attorney admissions ceremony at the CNMI Supreme Court last Thursday. Also in the photo are, from left, Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja, Associate Justice John A. Manglona, and Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-15-015

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF TYPHOON RECOVERY MATERIALS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Typhoon Recovery Materials for CUC Power Division, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials, based on bids for "Commodity Groups".

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-15-015, Supply & Delivery of Typhoon Recovery Materials" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 27, 2015** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bid. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 11, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Alfredo Palattao, CUC Power Division Engineer via email alfredo.palattao@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-15-016

WATER METER INSTALLATION, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for Water Meter Installation in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of removal/replacement of failed and non-functioning water meters on the CUC water system, installing meters for customers who do not currently have a water meter on their service line, and relocating water meters to the right-of-way. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

This project is funded by the USEPA and the US Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Water & Energy Efficiency grant.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Seven (7) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-15-016, Water Meter Installation, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 20, 2015**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 4, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, CUC Water/Wastewater Junior Engineer - via email nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, Jr.
Purchasing Officer

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMFS FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXV, Issue No. 84Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

The end of April

“March winds and April showers bring forth May flowers” is a familiar English phrase, or the shorter trochaic version (“trochee” is a long syllable, or stressed syllable, followed by a short, or unstressed, one, often heard in Shakespeare, though used widely in children’s rhymes), “April showers bring May flowers” that was reportedly once “Sweet April showers/Do spring May flowers.”

All these are pertinent in the four seasons of the temperate zone where spring follows winter, and autumn that of summer, but On Saipan where it has 12-month long summers, the showers of April just means a wet season for the trees and flowers that bloom all year round, not unlike the flowering of mangoes and other fruit arbors on island, where location determines cycle.

April 25-26 was the Flame Tree Arts Festival and the shower did pour and the flowers did bloom, along with the numerous artists that graced the event, and the delightful performers on stage that kept the audience entertained.

The month’s corral of “awareness declarations” gathered a crowd. Autism took the lead by just the number of diagnosed members under a wide spectrum, 1 out of 68 at last count in an alarming ratio. Some 130 walkers showed up for hot dogs in Marpi.

Cancer took an existential hit as one politician’s brother succumbed to the oral variety, though the debilitating cell itself remains the object of intense research. *Saipan Tribune* staff, among others, walked to raise awareness from the JP Center (former publisher John Pangelinan succumb to cancer) to the Susupe Beach Park where former AG Herbert Soll and his wife, and educator John Babauta were among the marchers. MMAC got a boost.

The ladies are justifiably up in arms in the long entrenched patriarchy in society (that spilled into matriarchal Micronesia), which nevertheless ignores domestic and sexual violence in the home and workplace. Fire fighters took time to run for the cause. Pam Brown of the former Ombudsman’s Office crusades for CW rights and assists migrants needing legal assistance at the Business Center.

The DD Council and NMPASI, for the differently-abled, made April a time to inventory legislative gains even as DD members decry a lag in access to accommodations in community structures. Jim Rayphand tags the kids on *TAGA Sports* mag.

The “heroes” in blue took their turn and showed their pride in the pause and the jog.

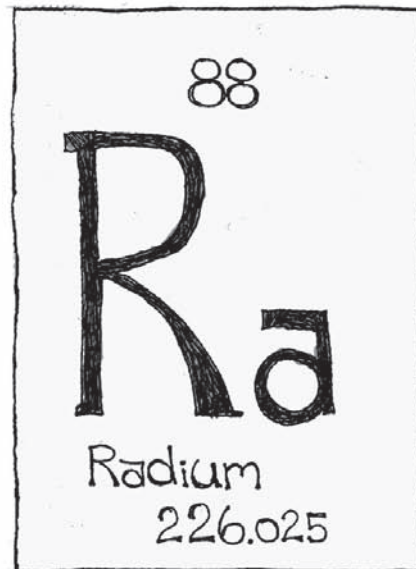
“Ego/Eco” awareness is high in the pristine atmosphere of the Mariana Islands (or the illusion thereof). The ego (selfhood) when tied to the eco (planet) can be chosen to be sustainable; otherwise, it is communal suicide. The virtue of eco-balance is often sacrificed when mercenary capital comes flashing the Sign. The awareness is thereby in need of vigilant watch.

That April awareness needs to continue to be a 12-month practice is a universal desire. Slackening is not an option. Let April showers bloom Mayflowers, and ripen the fruits of endeavors resulting in awakening. Autism, cancer, the differently-abled, violence at home and the workplace, heroes, and eco-selfhood require year round attention.

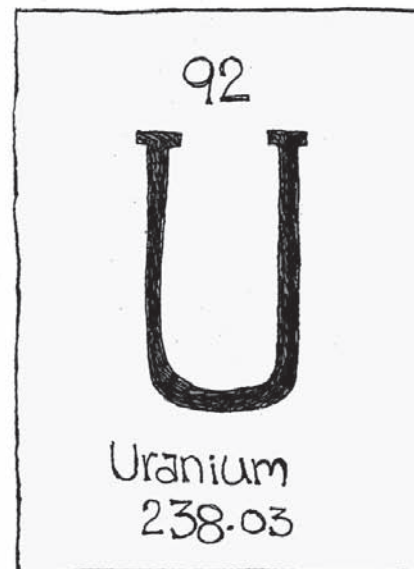
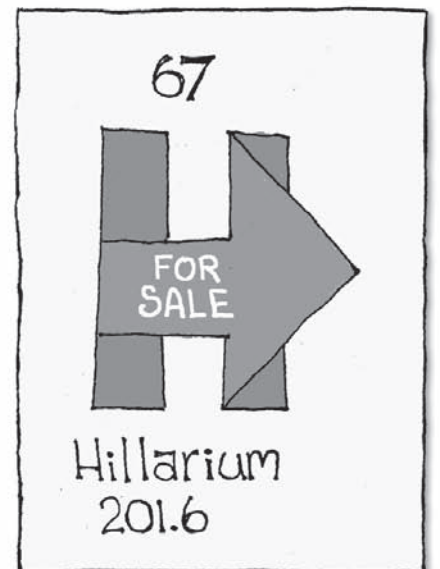
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ATOMIC ELEMENTS



Radioactive

More
RadioactiveMost
Radioactive

Haunted by the nightmare of the Vietnam War

By ALAN MILLER
THE SACRAMENTO BEE

Upon succeeding Richard Nixon in 1974, President Gerald Ford proclaimed, “Our long national nightmare is over.” Ford was referring to the Watergate scandal that had preoccupied the nation for months. But the nightmare of Vietnam that began in 1955, when we first dispatched military advisers to Southeast Asia and then ignominiously pulled out of that foreign policy disaster on April 30, 1975, continues to haunt our nation.

The 40th anniversary of that pullout is something most Americans would prefer to forget. But the somber black marble monument wall in the nation’s capital bearing the names of 58,272 of those who died in Vietnam must never be forgotten.

Those deaths should remind us of George Santayana’s warning: “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” The Spanish philosopher’s admonition is relevant today as U.S. forces find themselves bogged down in the Middle East.

A dozen years after invading Iraq, most Americans realize that the chronically violent region is a riddle far beyond our comprehension. A similar dilemma confronted us in Vietnam where we tried to fight a conventional war against an unconventional foe that was neither a pawn of the Soviet Union nor China, notwithstanding the so-called “domino theory” that communism had to be contained in Vietnam lest it spread exponentially.

Former Virginia Sen. James Webb was exactly right when he said there will always be a wall between those who served in Vietnam and those who did not. During his tour as a Marine platoon commander, he was awarded the Navy Cross, a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars and two Purple Hearts before receiving a medical discharge.

I first met Webb several decades ago in San Diego when he was a relatively anonymous assistant secretary for Veterans Affairs in the Reagan administration. When next we met Webb was secretary of the Navy and accompanied by a phalanx of admirals and aides. He was the same plain-spoken advocate of military service whose writings about Vietnam should be required reading.

To wit: “An irony of the Greatest Generation is at work here. Lest we forget, the World War II generation now being lionized also brought us the Vietnam War, a conflict which today’s most conspicuous voices by and large opposed, and in which few of them served. The ‘best and the brightest’ of the Vietnam age group once made headlines by castigating their parents for bringing about the war in which they would not fight, which has become the war they refused to remember.”

Webb graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and volunteered

for the Marines — 73 percent of those who died in Vietnam were volunteers. I share his abiding contempt for those chicken hawks who championed the war so long as someone else was sent to do the fighting and dying. Chief among them was Dick Cheney, who used no fewer than five deferments to dodge the draft and still defiantly defends his role in promoting our Middle East military nightmare.

The Vietnam nightmare could have been avoided. In 1963, Defense Secretary Robert McNamara advised President John F. Kennedy to start withdrawing military advisers, and we began doing so until a U.S.-inspired coup prompted the killing of President Ngo Dinh Diem. Soon after Kennedy was assassinated, President Lyndon B. Johnson poured more than 500,000 troops into Vietnam. McNamara knew the war was unwinnable by late 1965, but remained its dogged defender until 1968 when he left office a broken man and the U.S. death toll was 25,000.

In 1971 a deeply divided country, roiled by demonstrations, discovered the depths of the government’s deceit with the publication of the Pentagon Papers. These classified documents, leaked to the press by a disillusioned Marine officer, detailed that the military and civilian leadership knew the war was basically a lost cause by the mid-1960s. Yet they continued to send American forces to fight and die.

On April 22, 1971, John Kerry, a decorated Navy veteran turned anti-war activist, challenged the Senate Foreign Relations Committee by asking: “How do you ask a man to be the last man to die in Vietnam? How do you ask a man to be the last man to die for a mistake?” Nearly four years and many deaths later, Ford conceded as much and ordered the frantic U.S. pullout from Saigon.

Rudyard Kipling prophesied America’s fate 123 years ago with these ominous lines from “The Naulahka”:

And the end of the fight is a tombstone white
with the name of the late deceased,
And the epitaph drear: A Fool lies here
who tried to hustle the East

As a newly minted Air Force second lieutenant in 1961, I volunteered for the Strategic Air Command and overseas duty. I served as a security operations officer stateside during the Cuban missile crisis the following year. Discharged in 1964 before the body count in Vietnam intensified, I nonetheless feel vaguely guilty about missing that senseless war that claimed the lives of some of my former students. And I continue to resent those who persist in promoting the sacrifice of the few for our military mistakes.

Alan Miller is a former editorial writer and columnist for The Detroit News and the San Diego Union-Tribune. He teaches at American River College in Sacramento, Calif., and has read and lectured extensively on Vietnam.

Our house is on fire...

We look around for hopeful answers to navigate familial hardship hailing from stagnated income for over 10 years. None! Often quizzed if we've been scavenging for survival in all the wrong places. Maybe!

We ignore issues that matter using short memories to avoid responsibility. Definitely!

A suspect announcement is out for "improvements" in the local economy. We sigh, taking deep breaths that things would begin looking better by dawn.

Unfortunately, it's back to survival mode. It remains a tough cookie to crack for the elected elite on the hill. To undo nearly two decades of pleasantry acquiescence and complacency now barking at the front door turns into prohibitive challenge.

Meanwhile, we listen and peek into negative tidings in news streams of bankruptcy. We move about a new triangle: military buildup, investments from China, the lack of planned development and growth. We can't make heads or tails. It seems we have adopted the Old Italian proverb, "Since the house is on fire, let us warm ourselves." Woe!

On Rota, there's a single pill that cures all illnesses in the purchase of a new ship for the island. The immediate challenge is the lack of operations funds. The greater challenge is the lack of money in the pockets of jobless folks ready to watch the beast sail into the harbor. Could they buy anything from the ship as penniless bystanders? Where did Rota's elected elite miss connecting the dots? It's called "wealth and jobs creation".

Years of complacency reduced to grand passivity have finally caught up with us. Waving a paper tiger to cover self-inflicted negligence simply failed to shield the guys and gals from their fiduciary obligations. And we're watching 24/7!

Just ask them to answer the leper-like anomaly of NMI bankruptcy and they spout strange phrases like, "don't know anything, didn't hear anything, didn't see anything." Didn't we place our livelihood at their feet they gladly accept? *A'saina!*

Marijuana controversy

To allow or disallow use of marijuana for medicinal or recreational purposes requires more than just the simplistic views of advocates (laymen) for its approval.

A doctor who's dealt with "cannabis" with glaucoma patients noted a number of issues that should be taken into consideration on this issue.

"Foremost is the fact that the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration still lists cannabis as a Schedule I drug, defined as a sub-

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



stance 'with no currently accepted medical use and a high potential for abuse ... with potentially severe psychological or physical dependence,' according to Dr. Sreedhar Potarazu, an acclaimed ophthalmologist and entrepreneur who has been recognized as an international visionary in the business of medicine and health information technology.

"That puts it on a par with heroin, ecstasy and LSD. But various trials have shown cannabis can be effective in treating multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, schizophrenia, epilepsy, intestinal disorders, glaucoma and pain.

"That's an impressive list, and it calls for a lot more research. We need to know: How many randomized clinical trials have been performed? Where did the drug work...and where did it not? What were its benefits and detriments? What was the drug's potency in each trial? What were the concentrations of its many components in each trial? And—very importantly—can the results be replicated?

"The potency of marijuana—determined by measuring levels of its main psychoactive ingredient, delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)—has skyrocketed in the last 40 years. According to the University of Mississippi's Potency Monitoring Project, the average THC content of marijuana in 1978 was 1.37 percent. In 2008, it was 8.49 percent. Yes, many CEOs and even presidents have smoked marijuana. But, clearly, this is not your father's weed.

Would DEA place cannabis under Schedule II category so medical research could begin? Now, would we push for cannabis in the absence of thorough medical research either for medicinal or recreational purposes? I think a go-slow approach is best. Let's get our facts together before making some blind leap into an uncertain future leveled off by the onslaught of tons of troubling ramifications for singing Three Blind Mice.

I can't imagine pushing for medicinal MJ without clearing the hurdle explained by an experience-based medical professional. Upon removing it from its current category as a Schedule I drug it should open up opportunities for medical research on its planned use on either side. Otherwise, we'd be jumping the gun on a matter that requires more than just simple aspiration or apprehension.

2nd wave of Chinese tourists and their heavy spending attract global attention

By PEARL YANG
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

During the recent Chinese Tomb Sweeping Day holiday in early April, Chinese travellers created a record by pushing hotel room reservations to over 90 percent in Japan, where they flooded in to see the cherry blossoms. Just less than two months ago, during the Chinese Spring Festival, also known as Chinese New Year, a big wave of Chinese travellers had already paid this country a visit. But the main purpose then was mainly about shopping and buying goods made in Japan.

In the past two years, from the major media in America, Europe, and East and Southeast Asia, to smaller destinations around the Pacific, Chinese tourists have been one of the hottest topics. Though leaving a trail of reputations behind, the first wave of Chinese tourists who went out have clearly learned to behave. Today, the heat has not died down. But the mainstream media has turned the topic from criticism to studying how to attract more and what can be done better to achieve the goal.

"With a population of over 1.36 billion and no more than 5 percent of whom have passports, the potential for future growth is extraordinary," as reported in a study by the Chinese International Travel Monitor 2014 released by Hotels.com. According to the study, Chinese tourists have taken over at the top of the list in terms of spending since 2012, with the continuous growth of China's economy. Today, the second wave—with more experience, expectations, and money—is coming.

"The second wave of Chinese tourists is looking for themed tours, bespoke arrangements and activity-based trips," therefore, according to the workshop conclusion on Chinese outbound tourism reported by 4Hoteliers.com, "tourism service providers will need to put more efforts into understanding their Chinese customers and guests" in order to satisfy the new Chinese tourist.

What is not new in this wave is that they still come with the money. In 2014, "the Chinese spent in total US\$138 billion on international travel. That is more than what was spent by travelers from Germany and the United States combined," reported by 4Hoteliers.com.

The heavy spending overseas has attracted global attention. *The Wall Street Journal* said that "Chinese tourists are finding an open door for their money" in its feature story of "Chinese visitors help Japan set tourism record." According to the Japan Tourism Agency, "on top of the travel expenses, Chinese buy more than US\$1,000 worth of goods on average during trips to Japan, twice as much as their nearest rivals, Russians."

This has even made the domestic government jealous. *China Daily* reported of "debates among Chinese tourism officials and industry players on how to stimulate the domestic tourism sector."

Linchi Kwok, a professor from California State Polytechnic University, particularly studied the reason why Japan is so successful in attracting Chinese tourists. In his article, "Learning from Japan to attract more Chinese tourists," he listed efforts that Japan has done better and more compared to other countries, including massive language assistance, tax-free promotions that are tailored to Chinese tourists and discounts based on China Unionpay. In his conclusion, "referring back to the U.S., we have recently eased the visa requirements for the Chinese to visit the U.S., but we definitely have not done enough."

However, it is better late than never. At least the U.S is working on the right track. Unfortunately, not every industry player could understand the marketing direction clearly. The CNMI is yet still struggling to bring back the Japanese who are constantly making efforts to please the Chinese. It surely takes courage to embrace the changes and creativity to compete with strong industry players in order to attract the new wave Chinese tourists.

Pearl Yang is the assistant editor of Island Traveler. She travelled several times to Saipan for story development and interviews for the magazine. During her visit, she was impressed by the stunning views, fresh air, and warm-hearted people. "I fell in love with the exotic tropical island immediately," she said. After writing about Saipan and translating articles of local writers for over two years to help Chinese readers understand Saipan and the CNMI, she came up of an idea: why not write something for the islanders to learn about China, the fastest growing country and the second largest economic entity in the world? After all, a country with fastest growing tourists and a travel destination must somehow create sparks between each other.

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.



LITERARY NOOK

Some CNMI Poetic Perspectives: 30 for April 30th

To end National Poetry Month here are 30 senryu for the 30th of April.

Thursday, April 30, 2015 there will be a public meeting for the "CNMI Joint Military Training Draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Overseas Environmental Impact Statement" at the Tinian Jr. Sr. High School cafeteria from 5pm to 8pm. With a title like that, is it any wonder the (EIS) Overseas (OEIS) statement is over 1,000 pages long? The military has provided copies to be read online, which include a 40-page executive summary. I used the summary as a basis for my short poems (containing opinions) found below. I have put certain terms in CAPITAL LETTERS to emphasize the terms as they are found in the impact statement itself. Senryu are haiku about people.

S. T. O. P. - S.enryu T.inian O.peration Poetry
T.H.I.N.K. - T.inian H.as I.nformative N.ew K.nowledge


| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| bombs above Pagan guns in Tinian below who gets hurt we don't know | "as we now live" is the NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE no one to forgive |
| EIS /OEIS impact statement one thousand pages long got anything wrong? | Tinian right now four live fire ranges why make changes? |
| Unai Chulu ramp bringing in the heavy stuff when will enough be enough? | military water use millions of gallons any left for STALLIONS? |
| take a look sixty days EIS thicker than NYC phone book left me in a daze | RANGE OPERATIONS lose the radio station possible situation |
| listen to the request take time to learn what's between us from GOVERNOR INOS | AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT VEHICLE landing at Chulu Beach will tourists ever reach |
| taotao Marianas read the executive summary get info on modern gunnery | four miles off the coast ALT. SURFACE DANGER ZONE fishermen must leave alone |
| Pagan inert bombs Tinian live ammunition learn the definition | MUNITIONS STORAGE AREA in direct flight path who did the math? |
| soldiers at Tinian stationed NINETY FIVE for the duration help for science education? | hearing today in high school cafeteria hear the criteria |
| IBB radio station move it or not topic is hot | eight to ten years announced for construction how much destruction? |
| about the radio station conflicting situation strategic complication | will our cows be in danger as they browse? |
| win win military and Tinian air thoughts for clearing outcome of hearings | planes in the air use more gas to divert new route and price unfair ? |
| live munitions dump just before the runway begins only explosion wins | US military did their work we can't forget KIM the North Korean jerk |
| talk about road side device live ammo before landing military needs to think twice | Stalinist dictator Kim the Young Un completely crazy one |
| Unai Chulu ramp on ancient village site doesn't seem right | he starves the poor more statues of him in store we've seen it before |
| about Invasion Beach exercise your freedom of speech practice what you preach | Kim in power by birth rules one of poorest countries on earth without any mirth |

(To read the EIS statement go to: www.CNMIJointMilitaryTrainingEIS.com.)

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼75°


THURSDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼75°


FRIDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼75°


SATURDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼75°

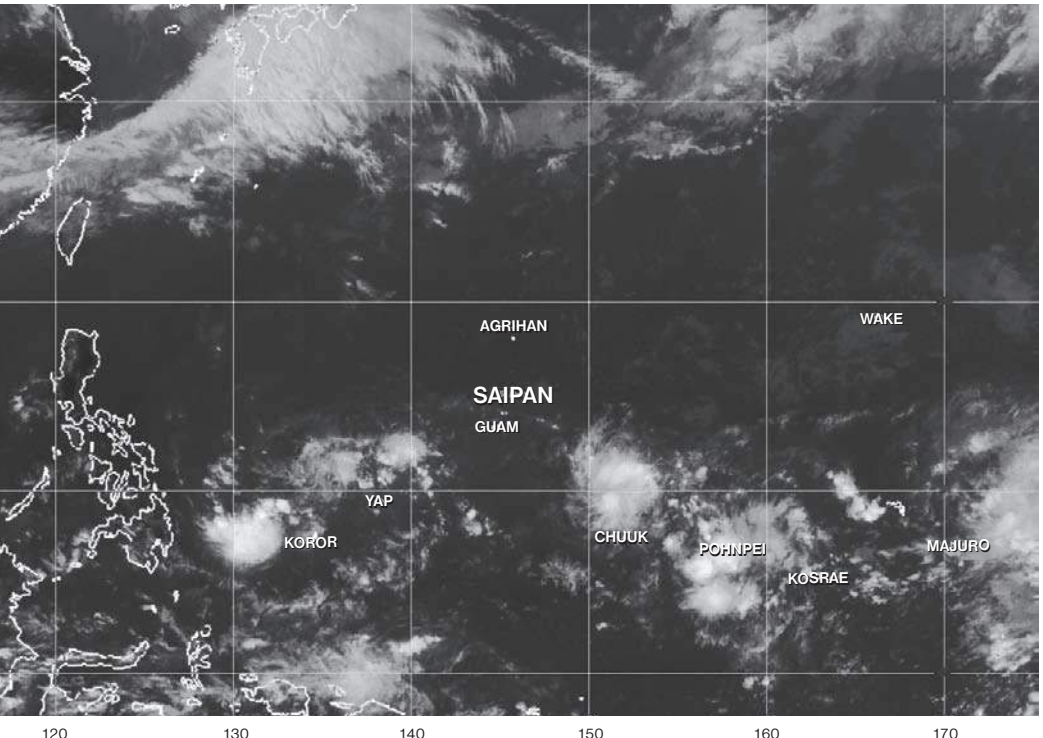
SUNDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼75°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015


Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A broad circulation is centered near Koror at 8N133E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present just west of Yap and Koror within 100 miles of a line from 7N131E to 13N139E and southeast of Yap within an area bounded by a line from 9N142E to 5N142E to 5N136E back to 9N142E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are also seen farther south south of a line from 2N130E to 1N141E. A surface trough extends northeast from EQ150E to 8N160E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen north of Chuuk within 100 miles of a line from 12N150E to 9N154E and over Pohnpei within 125 miles of a line from 4N158E to 9N161E. A tropical disturbance in the Marshall Islands is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southeast of Majuro within 100 miles of a line from 8N173E to 1N175E. Trade-wind convergence east of this disturbance is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms east of Majuro within 175 miles of a line from 11N173E to 7N180E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

| Micronesia | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----|-----|
| Guam And Rota | Thundershowers | ▲85 | ▼80 |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | ▲88 | ▼80 |
| Yap | Mostly Cloudy | ▲86 | ▼78 |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | ▲85 | ▼79 |
| Pohnpei | Mostly Cloudy | ▲87 | ▼76 |
| Kosrae | Partly Sunny | ▲88 | ▼81 |
| Majuro | Partly Sunny | ▲85 | ▼77 |

| Around the Globe | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-----|-----|
| Auckland | Showers | ▲66 | ▼60 |
| Beijing | Sunny | ▲83 | ▼57 |
| Hong Kong | Partly Cloudy | ▲83 | ▼73 |
| Honolulu | Windy | ▲83 | ▼72 |
| London | Mostly Sunny | ▲57 | ▼44 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲89 | ▼63 |
| Manila | Mostly Sunny | ▲95 | ▼78 |
| Melbourne | Mostly Sunny | ▲64 | ▼43 |
| Miami | Thundershowers | ▲88 | ▼77 |
| New York | Mostly Sunny | ▲68 | ▼53 |
| Osaka | Partly Cloudy | ▲75 | ▼58 |
| Paris | Partly Cloudy | ▲59 | ▼43 |
| Pusan | Showers | ▲67 | ▼53 |
| Rome | Rain | ▲65 | ▼55 |
| Salem | Showers | ▲57 | ▼41 |
| San Francisco | Mostly Sunny | ▲64 | ▼49 |
| Seoul | Partly Cloudy | ▲80 | ▼55 |
| Tokyo | Mostly Cloudy | ▲71 | ▼59 |
| Washington, DC | Mostly Sunny | ▲71 | ▼52 |



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

| Tides | | | |
|---------------|-------|------------|----------|
| Saipan Harbor | | | |
| 5:47 AM | Today | High Tide: | 1.7 Feet |
| 12:17 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.7 Feet |
| 5:48 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.5 Feet |
| 11:59 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.5 Feet |

| Sunrise/Sunset | | |
|----------------|---------|---------|
| Today | 5:56 AM | 6:34 PM |
| Thursday | 5:55 AM | 6:34 PM |
| Friday | 5:55 AM | 6:35 PM |
| Saturday | 5:54 AM | 6:35 PM |
| Sunday | 5:54 AM | 6:35 PM |

| Moonrise/Moonset | | |
|------------------|---------|---------|
| Today | 2:42 PM | 2:31 AM |
| Thursday | 3:28 PM | 3:10 AM |
| Friday | 4:15 PM | 3:48 AM |
| Saturday | 5:03 PM | 4:27 AM |
| Sunday | 5:52 PM | 5:07 AM |

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

NEWS DESK

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Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2015

| DEPARTURES | | | | ARRIVALS | | | |
|------------------------|---------|----------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------|-----------|--------------------------|
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) | | | | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN | | | |
| UA5070 | 4:15am | 5:05am | Daily | UA5069 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| UA5068 | 8:00am | 8:50am | 3 | UA5071 | 6:40am | 7:30am | 3 |
| UA5068 | 8:40am | 9:30am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 | UA5071 | 7:15am | 8:05am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| UA5039 | 2:15pm | 3:55pm | 6, 7 via Rota | UA5039 | 12:55pm | 1:45pm | 6, 7 |
| UA5078 | 3:05pm | 3:55pm | 1, 5 | UA5038 | 1:00pm | 2:35pm | 2, 4 via Rota |
| UA5038 | 3:05pm | 3:55pm | 2, 4 | UA5077 | 1:45pm | 2:35pm | 1, 5 |
| UA5040 | 6:55pm | 7:45pm | 1, 5 | UA5041 | 5:35pm | 6:25pm | 1, 5 |
| UA5078 | 8:35pm | 9:25pm | 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 | UA5077 | 7:15pm | 8:05pm | 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| UA5044 | 10:40pm | 11:30pm | 1, 5 | UA5043 | 9:20pm | 10:10pm | 1, 5 |
| SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) | | | | GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) | | | |
| UA5039 | 2:15pm | 2:50pm | 6, 7 | UA5038 | 1:00pm | 1:35pm | 2, 4 |
| ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) | | | | ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN | | | |
| UA5039 | 3:20pm | 3:55pm | 6, 7 | UA5038 | 2:00pm | 2:35pm | 2, 4 |
| SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR) | | | | PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN | | | |
| DL287 | 6:05am | 1:05am+1 | 2, 6 via NRT | DL298 | 4:30am | 2:55pm | 3, 7 via NRT |
| SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) | | | | NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN | | | |
| DL287 | 6:05am | 8:45am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 | DL298 | 10:25am | 2:55pm | Daily |
| DL297 | 4:20pm | 7:10pm | Daily | DL288 | 8:55pm | 1:25am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 |
| SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) | | | | SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ626 | 2:20am | 6:00am | 1 | OZ623 | 8:50am | 2:20pm | Daily |
| OZ626 | 2:50am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | 7C3402 | 9:30am | 3:20pm | 1, 2, 4, 7 |
| 7C3403 | 4:35am | 8:20am | 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 | 7C3402 | 10:55am | 4:25pm | 3, 5, 6 |
| 7C3403 | 5:25am | 9:10am | 3, 4 | OZ625 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| OZ624 | 3:30pm | 6:55pm | Daily | OZ625 | 8:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| 7C3401 | 4:20pm | 8:05pm | 1, 2, 4, 7 | 7C3404 | 10:10pm | 3:40am+1 | Daily |
| 7C3401 | 5:25pm | 9:10pm | 3, 5, 6 | | | | |
| SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) | | | | BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ608 | 3:10am | 6:20am | 4, 7 | OZ607 | 9:05pm | 1:55am+1 | 3, 6 |
| SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) | | | | SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN | | | |
| 3U8648 | 6:00am | 8:35am | 1, 4, 5, 7 | 3U8647 | 10:30pm | 4:30am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) | | | | BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN | | | |
| MU764 | 1:30am | 5:30am | 3, 5, 7 | MU763 | 4:30pm | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6 |
| SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) | | | | GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN | | | |
| 3U8646 | 4:30am | 7:30am | 2, 6 | 3U8645 | 7:55pm | 3:10am+1 | 1, 5 |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) | | | | MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ626/701 | 2:20am | 11:05am | 1 via ICN | OZ704/623 | 12:10am | 2:20pm | Daily via ICN |
| OZ626/701 | 2:50am | 11:05am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | DL276/288 | 9:30am | 1:25am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT |
| UA5070/191 | 4:15am | 8:55am | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM | UA190/5077 | 9:55am | 8:05pm | 2, ,3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA5070/PR111 | 4:15am | 9:20am | 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM | OZ702/625 | 12:15pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| UA5070/183 | 4:15am | 8:50pm | 2, 5 via GUM | OZ702/625 | 12:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| UA5070/183 | 4:15am | 9:10pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM | PR110/UA5071 | 10:05pm | 7:30am+1 | 3 via GUM |
| DL287/275 | 6:05am | 9:30pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT | PR110/UA5071 | 10:05pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA5068/183 | 8:00am | 9:10pm | 3 via GUM | UA184/5071 | 10:25pm | 7:30am+1 | 3 via GUM |
| UA5068/183 | 8:40am | 8:50pm | 2, 5 via GUM | UA184/5071 | 10:25pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA5068/183 | 8:40am | 9:10pm | 1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM | UA184/5039 | 10:25pm | 1:45pm+1 | 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA5039/183 | 2:15pm | 9:10pm | 6, 7 via Rota-GUM | UA184/5077 | 10:25pm | 2:35pm+1 | 1 via GUM |
| UA5038/183 | 3:05pm | 8:50pm | 2 via GUM | UA184/5038 | 10:25pm | 2:35pm+1 | 4 via GUM-Rota |
| UA5078/183 | 3:05pm | 8:50pm | 5 via GUM | UA184/5041 | 10:25pm | 6:25pm+1 | 1 via GUM |
| UA5078/183 | 3:05pm | 9:10pm | 1 via GUM | UA184/5077 | 10:25pm | 8:05pm+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA5038/183 | 3:05pm | 9:10pm | 4 via GUM | UA184/5043 | 10:25pm | 10:10pm+1 | 1 via GUM |
| OZ624/703 | 3:30pm | 10:45pm | Daily via ICN | UA184/5071 | 11:30pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |
| | | | | UA184/5038 | 11:30pm | 2:35pm+1 | 2 via GUM-Rota |
| | | | | UA184/5077 | 11:30pm | 2:35pm+1 | 5 via GUM |
| | | | | UA184/5041 | 11:30pm | 6:25pm+1 | 5 via GUM |
| | | | | UA184/5077 | 11:30pm | 8:05pm+1 | 2 via GUM |
| | | | | UA184/5043 | 11:30pm | 10:10pm+1 | 5 via GUM |
| SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) | | | | HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ626/721 | 2:20am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN | OZ746/623 | 12:40am | 2:20pm | Daily via ICN |
| OZ626/721 | 2:50am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | OZ722/625 | 1:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| UA5070/179 | 4:15am | 9:55pm | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM | OZ722/625 | 1:10pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| UA5068/179 | 8:00am | 9:55pm | 3 via GUM | UA180/5071 | 9:55pm | 7:30am+1 | 3 via GUM |
| UA5068/179 | 8:40am | 9:55pm | 1, 5, 6 via GUM | UA180/5071 | 9:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 5, 6 via GUM |
| UA5039/179 | 2:15pm | 9:55pm | 6 via Rota-GUM | UA180/5039 | 9:55pm | 1:50pm+1 | 6 via GUM |
| UA5078/179 | 3:05pm | 9:55pm | 1, 5 via GUM | UA180/5077 | 9:55pm | 2:40pm+1 | 1, 5 via GUM-Rota |
| OZ624/749 | 3:30pm | 11:00pm | Daily via ICN | UA180/5041 | 9:55pm | 6:25pm+1 | 1, 5 via GUM |
| | | | | UA180/5077 | 9:55pm | 8:05pm+1 | 3, 6 via GUM |
| | | | | UA180/5043 | 9:55pm | 10:10pm+1 | 1, 5 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

| STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC. | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|------------------|---------|-----------|----------------|---------|------------------------------|
| TINIAN TO SAIPAN | | | SAIPAN TO TINIAN | | | SAIPAN TO ROTA | | |
| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 7:00AM | 7:15AM | Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat | 7:00AM | 7:15AM | Daily | 7:45AM | 8:15AM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| | | | 8:00AM | 8:15AM | Daily | | | |
| 7:30AM | 7:45AM | Daily | 9:00AM | 9:15AM | Daily | 4:00PM | 4:30PM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 8:30AM | 8:45AM | Daily | 10:00AM | 10:15AM | Daily | | | |
| 9:30AM | 9:45AM | Daily | 11:00AM | 11:15AM | Daily | | | |
| 10:30AM | 10:45AM | Daily | 12:00NN | 12:15NN | Daily | | | |
| 11:30AM | 11:45AM | Daily | 1:00PM | 1:15PM | Daily | | | |
| 12:30NN | 12:45NN | Daily | 2:00PM | 2:15PM | Daily | | | |
| 1:30PM | 1:45PM | Daily | 3:00PM | 3:15PM | Daily | | | |
| 2:30PM | 2:45PM | Daily | 4:00PM | 4:15PM | Daily | | | |
| 3:30PM | 3:45PM | Daily | 5:00PM | 5:15PM | Daily | | | |
| 4:30PM | 4:45PM | Daily | 6:00PM | 6:15PM | Daily | | | |
| 5:30PM | 5:45PM | Daily | | | | | | |
| 6:30PM | 6:45PM | Daily | | | | | | |

| ROTA TO SAIPAN | | |
|----------------|---------|------------------------------|
| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 8:30AM | 9:00AM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:45PM | 5:15PM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |

SDA School 8th graders make class trip to Taiwan

During their spring break in the beginning of April, the eighth grade students at the Saipan Seventh-Day Adventist School took a class trip to the country of Taiwan. This trip has been the main focus of their class fundraisers, and with help from school faculty, the eighth graders were able to raise \$4,000 toward their trip to Taiwan. Their fundraisers ranged from bowling tournaments to hot lunches, and the students want to thank everyone who participated in events and supported them in this goal.

While on the trip, the eighth graders and their faculty sponsors were able to visit many exciting historical attractions and participate in much of what the island country has to offer. In the first city they visited, Taipei, the SDA school group visited the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial where they watched the changing of the guard ceremony. The group visited the Taipei 101 Tower and rode the fastest elevator in the world up to its observation deck on the 89th floor, where they were able to see a 360-degree view of the city. The group went to the Taipei Zoo where they were able to see pandas, koalas and many other animals for the first time. The students had the opportunity to ride in a gondola over the tea fields in the mountains that surround Taipei. Also while in Taipei, the SDA school group visited a sister institution, the Taipei Adventist Hospital.

After spending several days in Taipei, the group rode a train to the city of Hualien, where they spent the day touring the Taroko Gorge. This national park with breathtaking views was a great outing for the students. Their



At Changchun Shrine, Hualien

tour of the Taroko Gorge provided an opportunity to see the natural wonders of the island and appreciate the landscapes.

Another train ride brought the group to the city of Kaohsiung, where they stayed for two days. While there, the SDA school group visited the old British Consulate and rode in the Kaohsiung Eye, a Ferris wheel on top of the largest mall in Taiwan—another amazing view of Taiwan! The next destination for the group was back to Taipei. Though the distance between these cities was roughly a 7-hour train ride, it took the group only an hour and 40 minutes riding the HSR, a high-speed rail that travels just over 180mph.

Once again in Taipei, the eighth graders and their sponsors enjoyed more sightseeing, and visited the Beitou Ther-

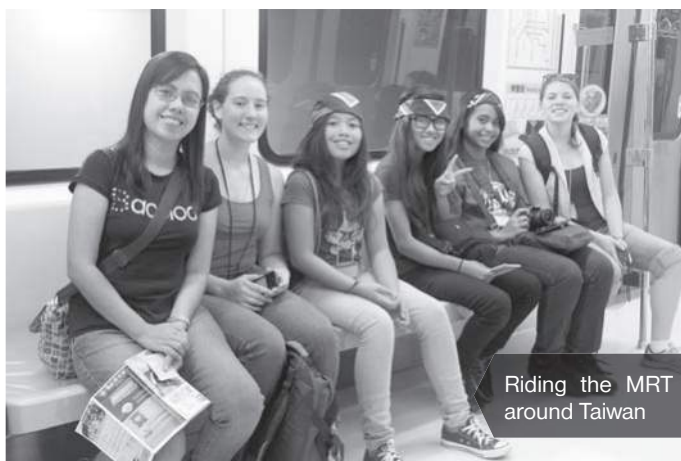
mal Valley and saw natural hot springs. During their last evening in Taipei the group visited the Shilin Night Market to shop and enjoy traditional Taiwanese foods.

During the week the students were put in charge of their own food budgets and learned how

to manage their money in a currency that was new to them. In addition to learning how to budget their money, the eighth graders also learned about a different culture, a different language and different customs. It was a great experience for both the students and teachers alike! *(Faith Hoyt)*



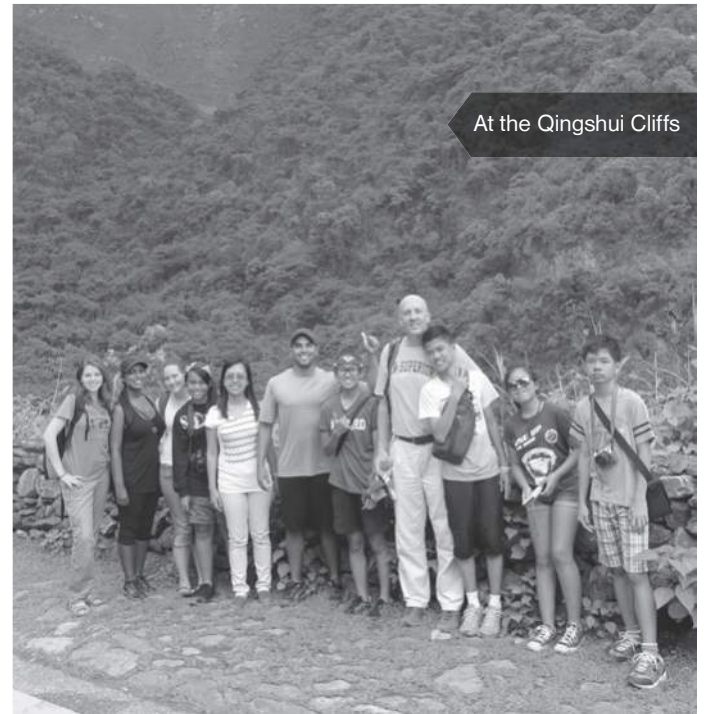
Crossing the Bridge at the entrance of Taroko Gorge



Riding the MRT around Taiwan



Watching the changing of the guards at Chiang Kai Shek Memorial Hall



At the Qingshui Cliffs



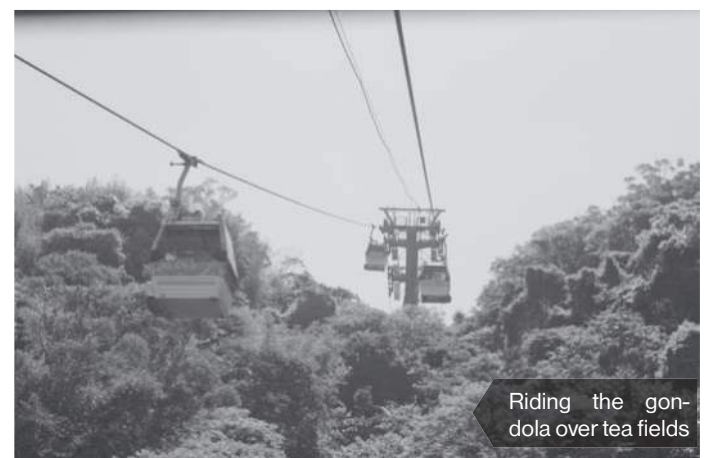
At Chiang Kai Shek Memorial



Visited Taiwan Adventist Hospital



Crossed the hanging bridge at Yushan National Park



Riding the gondola over tea fields



Taipei 101 Tower

Business

VW chairman quits, but questions over future remain

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)—Volkswagen's patriarch has left the building. Does this mean change is coming to the world's No. 2 automaker—in particular, to its high-cost ways of doing business?

Ferdinand Piech shaped the company's destiny for more than 25 years. He rescued Volkswagen's fortunes as CEO from 1993 to 2002. He then served as a powerful board chairman, his clout heightened by the fact his family owns a majority stake in the company.

Piech had criticized CEO Martin Winterkorn in an interview with Germany's *Der Spiegel* magazine, saying he was "at a distance" from him. Other board members—including Piech's cousin, Wolfgang Porsche—backed Winterkorn.

Piech, 78, lost the battle and resigned Saturday. His wife, Ursula, resigned her board seat as well.

He didn't say exactly what his problem with Winterkorn was.

But the challenges that may have provoked his dissatisfaction are very much still there.

COSTS

Volkswagen—the core mass-market brand under that name—spends more to make cars than its rivals Toyota and General



In this April 25, 2013 file photo Chairman of the board of Volkswagen AG Ferdinand Piech and his wife Ursula Piech, member of the board, arrive for a meeting of Volkswagen AG in Hannover, northern Germany.

Motors. Much of its workforce is in Germany, where wages and benefits are high. Employee representatives hold half the 20 board seats under German law, and their influence obstructs cost-cutting. Volkswagen makes parts, such as seats, which other companies get cheaper by buying from suppliers.

The company earns only 540

euros (\$584) per car in profit before interest and taxes, according to an analysis by Ferdinand Dudenhofer at the University of Duisburg-Essen.

Compare that to 1,647 euros per car for Toyota and 783 euros per car for General Motors.

Volkswagen sold 10.14 million cars last year, well ahead of its predictions just a few

years ago, and breathing down the neck of Toyota, which sold 10.23 million.

Problem is, Volkswagen has 593,000 employees—while Toyota did it with 344,000.

THE USA

Volkswagen has been slow to get attractive vehicles—in particular, a full palette of sport-utility

vehicles—to the U.S. market. The CrossBlue mid-sized crossover, a blend of car and SUV, was shown at the 2013 Detroit auto show but won't make it to dealers until 2016.

"You cannot be a successful mass-market carmaker in the United States without a compelling SUV," said analyst Karl Brauer from automotive re-

search firm Kelley Blue Book.

The company saw its U.S. market share fall to 2.23 percent in 2014 from 3.03 percent in 2012, despite spending \$1 billion to build an assembly plant in Chattanooga, Tennessee. It has 6,000 employees at its U.S. arm, which is headquartered in Herndon, Virginia.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Greek PM says initial deal in bailout talks 'very close'

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Greece's prime minister voiced hope that bailout talks between the cash-strapped country and its international creditors are "very close" to an initial deal, and ruled out early elections if the dragging negotiations fail. Alexis Tsipras told private Star TV that he believes a first agreement can be struck by the end of next week, which can then be ratified by Greece's European partners. "I think that by the 9th of May we will have an agreement" that will allow release of some bailout funds, he said in a three-hour interview screened just before midnight Monday. Since its election in January, Tsipras' radical left-led government has been locked in increasingly fraught talks with other European countries that use the euro currency—which provide the bulk of the bailout cash that has kept Greece afloat for five years.

High court to consider lawsuits over personal data

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court said Monday it will decide whether websites and other firms that collect personal data can be sued for publishing inaccurate information even if the mistakes don't cause any actual harm. The case is being watched closely by Google, Facebook and other Internet companies concerned that class-action lawsuits under the Fair Credit Reporting Act could expose them to billions of dollars in damages. The justices will hear an appeal from Spokeo.com, a Pasadena, California-based Internet search engine that compiles publicly available data on people and lets subscribers view the information, including address, age, marital status and economic health. Thomas Robins, a Virginia resident, sued Spokeo after viewing a profile on him that was riddled with errors. It incorrectly stated his age, that he had a graduate degree, was employed and married with children. In fact, Robins was unemployed and looking for work. He claims the false information damaged his job prospects.

Apple's Mac is selling strong, iPad not so much

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Apple's iPhone was again the company's star in the first three months of the year. The tech giant sold 61 million iPhones, or 40 percent more than in the same period a year ago. That represented about two-thirds of its \$58 billion in revenue.

But executives also shed some light on other well-known Apple products in interviews and a conference call with analysts Monday evening.

iPAD SALES DOWN

Apple's tablet computing device, once a red-hot consumer gadget, has suffered from a steady decline in sales over the last year. Apple sold 12.6 million iPads in the latest quarter, for about \$5.4 billion in revenue. That's down from 16.3 million iPads sold in the same period a year earlier.

Analysts say consumers are realizing tablets aren't as useful for some tasks, and they're also waiting longer to buy new models. Apple CEO Tim Cook said Monday that some potential iPad users are opting instead for the company's new lightweight MacBook computers, or even the newer iPhone models that have larger screens.

But Cook said he sees a future for the iPad in business settings, where workers can use specialized iPad apps created by

IBM and other commercial software developers. "I believe the iPad is an extremely good business over the long term," Cook said. "Precisely when it begins to grow again, I wouldn't want to predict. But I strongly believe that it will."

MAC SALES UP

At a time when market researchers say the personal computer market is shrinking, Apple is actually increasing its sales of Macs. The company sold 4.6 million Mac desktops and notebook computers in the last quarter.

That's a lot fewer than the estimated 13.4 million PCs sold by leading PC-maker Lenovo in the same period. But the Mac contributed \$5.6 billion of Apple's revenue last quarter and saw unit sales grow 10 percent, while market researchers at International Data Corp. estimate total PC sales by all vendors shrank nearly 7 percent.

The growth in Mac sales was led by Apple's MacBook portables, said Chief Financial Officer Luca Maestri, although he did not break out desktop or laptop figures.

WATCH SALES UNDISCLOSED

Despite repeated questions, Cook and Maestri declined to reveal any sales figures for the

Apple Watch, which went on sale this month. The company is currently only accepting orders online and Cook said, "right now, demand is greater than the supply."

But he said Apple is working to fill orders and expedite deliveries that have been

delayed for several weeks, while increasing supplies to the point where Apple will begin selling the watch in more countries by late June. Currently, the watch is being sold in the United States, Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan and

the United Kingdom.

Maestri also said the watch will contribute to a slight dip in the company's profit margins during the first quarter that it's on sale. Cook, however, said that's typical for a new product when manufacturing and supply chains are still being refined, and he declined to offer any estimate for the watch's profitability over the long term.

United Airlines supports relief efforts in Nepal

CHICAGO—United Airlines announced yesterday that it will work with its disaster relief partners the American Red Cross, Americares, Airlink and Operation USA to provide aid to those affected by

» United customers can contribute money and miles to support the airline's disaster relief partners

the earthquake in Nepal. Beginning today, United will provide up to a total of \$50,000 to match donations to these partner organizations from United customers and employees. The

airline will also provide a one-time mileage bonus to MileagePlus members who donate. United will contribute up to 5 million miles for this initiative. MileagePlus members who give between \$50-99 will receive 250 bonus miles, those who contribute \$100-249 will receive 500 bonus miles, and members who donate more

than \$250 will receive 1,000 bonus miles. Up to 5 million bonus miles will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis based on contributions made through the airline's fundraising page through 11:59 PM CDT on May 15, 2015.

For more information and to make a donation, customers and employees may visit United's fundraising page at <https://www.crowdrise.com/unitednepalrelief>.

"Our hearts are with those living and working in Nepal as they recover from this devastating event," said United's Senior Vice President of Corporate and Government Affairs Mark Anderson. "Our employees and customers always want to help in times like these, and we want to recog-

nize their generosity by offering a mileage bonus incentive to our MileagePlus members who are supporting this critical humanitarian relief effort."

Customers may also donate miles

MileagePlus members with accrued miles can donate their miles to a charity through United's Charity Miles program. Many international relief organizations send personnel and volunteers to assist in the affected region, and the donation of miles will help defray their expenses. Through these programs, MileagePlus members can donate a minimum of 500 miles to any of the designated groups involved in the relief effort.

To donate miles online, MileagePlus members can visit united.com. Customers may also donate miles by calling MileagePlus Customer Service at 1-800-421-4655. (United)

Nation

Riots in Baltimore over man's death in police custody

BALTIMORE (AP)—Rioters plunged part of Baltimore into chaos Monday, torching a pharmacy, setting police cars ablaze and throwing bricks at officers hours after thousands mourned the man who died from a severe spinal injury he suffered in police custody.

The governor declared a state of emergency and called in the National Guard to restore order, and Attorney General Loretta Lynch, in her first day on the job, said she would send Justice Department officials to the city in coming days. A weeklong, daily curfew was imposed beginning Tuesday from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m., the mayor said, and Baltimore public schools announced that they would be closed on Tuesday. At least 15 officers were hurt, and some two dozen people were arrested. Two officers remained hospitalized, police said.

"The National Guard represents the last resort in restoring order," Gov. Larry Hogan told a news conference. "I have not made this decision lightly."



Baltimore firefighters battle a three-alarm fire Monday, April 27, 2015, at a senior living facility under construction at Federal and Chester Streets in East Baltimore. It was unclear whether it was related to the ongoing riots but was one of several fires in the area.

a fire hydrant, spraying water all over the street and nearby buildings. Later Monday night, a massive fire erupted in East Baltimore that a spokesman for Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake initially said was connected to the riots. He later texted an AP reporter saying officials are still investigating whether there is a connection.

The Mary Harvin Transfor-



mation Center was under construction and no one was believed to be in the building at the time, said the spokesman, Kevin Harris. The center is described online as a community-based organization that supports youth and families.

The smell of burned rubber wafted in the air in one neighborhood where youths were looting a liquor store. Police stood still nearby as people drank looted alcohol. Glass and trash littered the streets, and other small fires were scattered about. One person from a church tried to shout something from a megaphone as two cars burned.

ACROSS THE NATION

Filmmaker among 4 Americans killed on Everest

A documentary filmmaker from Colorado was among four Americans killed in a Mount Everest avalanche triggered by the earthquake that shook Nepal. Thomas Ely Taplin, 61, was working on a film about the community of climbers at base camp and had been there only a short time when the magnitude-7.8 quake struck, his wife, Cory Freyer, told The Associated Press on Monday. "His passions were adventure travel and extreme landscape types of films," Freyer said in a telephone interview. The couple lived in Evergreen, Colorado, most of the year, she said. Eighteen people were killed by gusts of wind that blasted through Everest's base camp during the temblor. The overall death toll from Saturday's temblor is more than 4,000.

Miller says he will plead guilty in Jewish site shootings

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—A white supremacist accused of killing three people at two Jewish centers in Kansas says he plans to plead guilty to capital murder to avoid a lengthy trial because of his failing health. Frazier Glenn Miller, 74, of Aurora, Missouri, told The Associated Press in a phone call from jail on Monday that he doesn't think he has much longer to live and wants a chance to speak in court about why he committed the crimes. Miller is accused of fatally shooting

William Lewis Corporon, 69, and his 14-year-old grandson, Reat Griffin Underwood, at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City in Overland Park, Kansas, on April 13, 2014. The two were there so the teen could compete in a singing contest. Minutes after they were shot, Miller killed Terri LaMano, 53, at a nearby Jewish retirement home where she was visiting her mother, prosecutors said. He was taken into custody after that shooting.

Enola Gay co-pilot's flight logs, Hiroshima plans for sale

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—Of the 12 men who flew aboard the Enola Gay the day the U.S. B-29 Superfortress dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima 70 years ago this summer, none knew the four-engine bomber better than Capt. Robert Lewis. On Wednesday, two of his wartime flight log books, Hiroshima bombing plans, mission notes and other items are up for sale during an auction of World War II material being held at Bonhams in Manhattan. The pre-sale estimate for the flight logs is \$150,000 to \$200,000. Lewis, a 27-year-old pilot from Ridgefield Park, New Jersey, logged a total of 36 flights aboard the Enola Gay, including the Aug. 6, 1945, bombing mission that changed the world. A meticulous record-keeper, Lewis' handwritten entry in his personal flight log for that historic day reads: "No#1 Atomic bomb a huge success."

Officers wearing helmets and wielding shields occasionally used pepper spray to keep the rioters back. For the most part, though, they relied on line formations to keep protesters at bay.

Monday's riot was the latest flare-up over the mysterious death of Freddie Gray, whose

fatal encounter with officers came amid the national debate over police use of force, especially when black suspects are involved. Gray was African-American. Police have declined to specify the races of the six officers involved in his arrest, all of whom have been suspended with pay while they

are under investigation.

Emergency officials were constantly thwarted as they tried to restore calm in the affected parts of the city of more than 620,000 people. Firefighters trying to put out a blaze at a CVS store were hindered by someone who sliced holes in a hose connected to

Lawyer pleads for Boston Marathon bomber's life

BOSTON (AP)—Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's lawyers pleaded with a jury Monday to spare his life, portraying him as "a good kid" who was led down the path to terrorism by his increasingly fanatical older brother.

David Bruck delivered the defense's opening statement in the penalty phase of Tsarnaev's trial, saying there is no punishment Tsarnaev can get that would be equal to the suffering of the bombing victims.

"There is no evening the 'Batman' trial tries to look inside Colorado shooter's mind

CENTENNIAL, Colo. (AP)—Two versions of the unstable mind of James Holmes were presented to a jury Monday as lawyers revealed many more details about his conversion from a promising grad student to a gunman capable of opening fire on hundreds of unsuspecting moviegoers at a "Batman" premiere.

The lead prosecutor displayed an image of the theater door on a TV screen as he told of a sinister but sane killer who methodically carried out the 2012 mass murder to make himself feel good and be remembered.

"Through this door is hor-

scales," Bruck said. "There is no point in trying to hurt him as he hurt because it can't be done."

Tsarnaev, 21, was convicted earlier this month in the twin bombings that killed three spectators and wounded more than 260 other people near the marathon's finish line on April 15, 2013. He was also found guilty of killing an MIT police officer during the Tsarnaev brothers' getaway attempt.

This stage of the trial will determine whether he is executed, as prosecutors are demanding,

or spends the rest of his life behind bars, the sentence Bruck urged the jury to impose.

"His legal case will be over for good, and no martyrdom, just years and years of punishment," the lawyer said. "All the while, society is protected."

Bruck focused heavily on Tsarnaev's now-dead older brother, Tamerlan, depicting him as a volatile figure who led the plot. He said Tamerlan was "consumed by jihad" and had "power" over an admiring Dzhokhar.

Through this door are bullets, blood, brains and bodies. Through this door, one guy who thought as if he had lost his career, lost his love life, lost his purpose, came to execute a plan," said District Attorney George Brauchler, standing before a scale model of the theater.

"He tried to murder a theater full of people to make himself feel better and because he thought it would increase his self-worth."

Brauchler said two previously secret court-ordered psychiatric exams found Holmes to be sane.

Public Defender Daniel King

countered that Holmes suffers from schizophrenia, a diagnosis confirmed by 20 doctors.

Jurors must decide whether Holmes was able to know right from wrong when he slipped into the theater, unleashed tear gas and killed 12 people and wounded 70. He's charged with first-degree murder, attempted murder, an explosives offense and committing an act of violence for the mayhem he caused on July 20, 2012.

Holmes has pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity. His defense hopes jurors will agree and have him indefi-

nitely committed to a mental institution. Under Colorado law, prosecutors must prove Holmes was sane in order to have him executed or spend the rest of his life in prison.

"Mental illness can sure sound like an excuse, but in this case, it's not," King said. "There will be no doubt in your minds that by the end of this trial, Mr. Holmes is severely mentally ill."

Holmes sat quietly, harnessed to the floor by a cable that ran through his pants leg as the lawyers described his emotional rise and fall.

Asia

Nuclear attack survivors, 70 years later, now fading away

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—What a nuclear attack didn't take from them, old age will.

Seventy years have passed since the United States shocked the world by dropping atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As nuclear powers gather this week to discuss a landmark disarmament treaty, the now-fragile survivors warn this may be their last chance to use their personal horror to hurry that work along.

The Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, or NPT, review conference happens just every five years. The average survivor, called hibakusha, is about 80 years old.

There are signs they are fading. Sunday's thousand-strong rally in Manhattan against nuclear weapons was led by a trio of women in wheelchairs, slowly making their way along the mile-and-a-half route.

One of the most famous survivors, 86-year-old Sumitomo Taniguchi, could not join them. Frail and silent, he sat in a wheelchair and watched the march set off up the avenue. Japanese media surrounded the Nagasaki survivor with cameras, leaning in for a better view.

"I was shocked when I saw him," said 83-year-old Hiroshima survivor Setsuko Thurlow, who completed the march in a wheelchair. "He was so much thinner."



Hiroshima survivor Setsuko Thurlow, at right, participates in a march against nuclear weapons Sunday, April 26, 2015, in New York.

Thurlow was 13 when Hiroshima was bombed and 140,000 people were killed. "People at a distance saw the mushroom

cloud and heard a thunderous roar. But I did not see the cloud because I was in it," she says when she tells her story. She

climbed from flaming ruins and spent hours giving water to a field full of people dying.

She has spoken about her experience, she said, thousands of times around the world. "My health? I've been

blessed," she said after Sunday's march. But friends say she lives with pain every day.

Japan is famous for having the world's oldest population, but supporters of the hibakusha warn that the health effects of a

nuclear attack likely will shorten their lives.

Taniguchi was 16 years old and riding his bicycle about a mile away from the epicenter when Nagasaki was bombed. Seventy thousand people were killed. His back was so badly burned that he spent much of the next three and a half years lying on his stomach. His friends say he still has open wounds and cannot sweat.

"Nuclear arms are weapons of the devil, which will not allow humans to live nor die as humans," he told an audience at a disarmament gathering in New York over the weekend.

Later, waiting for an elevator to go up one floor, a chain of origami peace cranes around his neck, Taniguchi declined an interview request. Too tired, his friend Hiroko Kumagai explained. "I am very worried about his health condition," she said quietly.

"It's a miracle he's alive. And he's a super heavy smoker," said Kathleen Sullivan. The program director for a project called Hibakusha Stories said this year will be the last to bring survivors to speak at New York City schools, "because frankly, it's concerning bringing so many elderly people together."

Sullivan teared up for a moment over the recent death of a good friend, a survivor who was in his late 80s. She worries about how to carry stories forward as a unique generation passes away.

Nepal quake death toll tops 4K; villages plead for aid

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—As the death toll from Nepal's devastating earthquake climbed past 4,000, aid workers and officials in remote, shattered villages near the epicenter pleaded Monday for food, shelter and medicine.

Help poured in after Saturday's magnitude-7.8 quake, with countries large and small sending medical and rescue teams, aircraft and basic supplies. The small airport in the capital of Kathmandu was congested and chaotic, with some flights forced to turn back early in the day.

Buildings in parts of the city were reduced to rubble, and there were shortages of food, fuel, electricity and shelter. As bodies were recovered, relatives cremated the dead along the Bagmati River, and at least a dozen pyres burned late into the night.

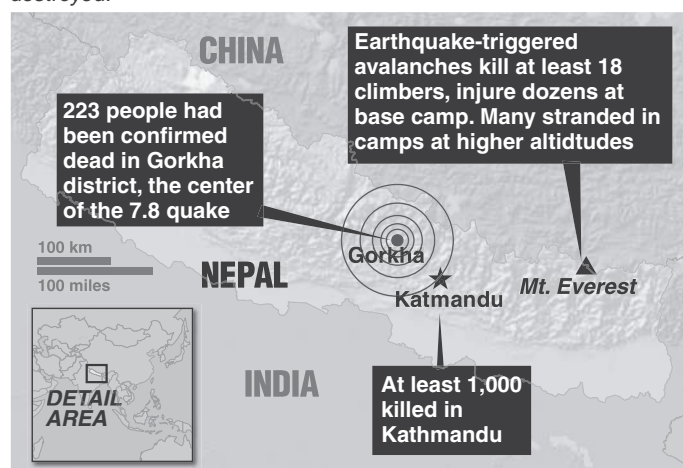
Conditions were far worse in the countryside, with rescue workers still struggling to reach mountain villages two days after the earthquake.

Some roads and trails to the Gorkha district, where the quake was centered, were blocked by landslides—but also by traffic jams that regularly clog the route north of Kathmandu.

"There are people who are

Death toll rises

The death toll from Saturday's earthquake in Nepal is over 4,000 and rising, even without a full accounting from mountain villages that rescue workers were still trying to reach two days after the disaster. Thousands are living in tents after their homes were destroyed.



Source: AP, BBC
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

not getting food and shelter. I've had reports of villages where 70 percent of the houses have been destroyed," said Uday Prasad Timalisina, the top official for the Gorkha region.

World Vision aid worker Matt Darvas arrived in the district in the afternoon and said almost no assistance had reached there ahead of him.

Newer concrete buildings were intact, Darvas said, but some villages were reported to be devastated. He cited a "disturbing" report from the village

of Singla, where up to 75 percent of the buildings may have collapsed and there has been no contact since Saturday night.

In the villages that have been reached, World Vision said the greatest needs were for search-and-rescue teams, food, blankets, tarps and medical treatment.

Timalisina said 223 people had been confirmed dead in Gorkha district but he presumed "the number would go up because there are thousands who are injured."

In US-Japan talks, China is the elephant in the room

WASHINGTON (AP)—When President Barack Obama and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe meet on Tuesday, a major subtext of their discussions will be the world leader not in the room—Chinese President Xi Jinping.

China's rise underlies both the economic and security discussions that will highlight Abe's state visit to the White House and is at the heart of Obama's so-called U.S. rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region.

Ahead of Tuesday's talks, Japanese and U.S. foreign and defense ministers approved revisions to the U.S.-Japan defense guidelines that boost Japan's military capability amid growing Chinese assertiveness in disputed areas in the East and South China Sea claimed by Beijing. The changes, which strengthen Japan's role in missile defense, mine sweeping and ship inspections, are the first revisions in 18 years to the rules that govern U.S.-Japan defense cooperation.

The meeting also comes as attention heightens in the U.S. over a Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement—a 12-nation deal to liberalize commerce

around the Pacific rim. The U.S. and Japan are the biggest participants in the negotiations.

Welcoming his guest a day early, Obama took Abe to the Lincoln Memorial Monday afternoon. The president played tour guide, leading the Japanese leader up the steps into the memorial where they examined the Gettysburg Address sketched into the marble walls.

While Obama and Abe won't be ready to announce any trade breakthrough, officials on both sides say they will likely declare they have made considerable progress in closing remaining gaps over questions of tariffs in the U.S. on Japanese pickup trucks and barriers in Japan on certain U.S. agricultural products.

Time and again, Obama has pushed for the trade deal in the face of stiff opposition from his liberal base and labor union allies by arguing that without an agreement with Asian countries, China will step into the breach.

"If we don't write the rules, China will write the rules out in that region," Obama said in an interview with the Wall Street Journal. "We will be shut out -- American businesses, American

agriculture. That will mean a loss of U.S. jobs."

The Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations also come as China is working to develop an international infrastructure bank for Asia to fill an estimated \$8 trillion gap in infrastructure funding for the region over the next decade. Japan and the U.S., leading shareholders of the World Bank and Asian Development Bank, have notably declined to participate citing concerns over the new bank's governance standards.

Abe's visit comes on the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II. Nothing seemed to underscore the reconciliation between the countries more than the agreement to boost the U.S.-Japan defense relationship, which would allow Japan to play a bigger role in global military operations with an eye on potential threats from China and North Korea.

Secretary of State John Kerry said the shift marks a historic transformation in the post-WWII relationship between Tokyo and Washington that recognizes the "evolving risks and dangers both in Asia-Pacific and across the globe."

World

Cash handoffs, extortion fuel Mediterranean trafficking

PALERMO, Sicily (AP)—Fleeing war, persecution and poverty, migrants desperate to reach Europe are paying thousands of dollars apiece to become pawns in a multimillion-dollar trafficking network that stretches from the Sahara to Sweden.

By the thousands, they're handing themselves over to abusive smugglers who hold them hostage in wretched conditions in Libya until their families cough up the cash to fund their trips, using companies like Western Union or more often the informal money transfer network known as hawala that is common in much of the Arabic world.

Those payments fund treacherous trips across the Mediterranean that have killed hundreds of people in recent weeks. And even if migrants survive the crossing, the exploitation doesn't end there: Smugglers, acting more like illicit travel agents than criminal gangs, arrange passage to safe houses in Sicily, buy bus tickets for new arrivals and even accompany their charges to their final destinations north, for thousands of dollars apiece.

Interviews with migrants, prosecutors, police and aid groups provide a portrait of the money trail that is fueling the record migration wave hitting Europe, creating a new migrant mafia that so far has sidelined Italy's traditional mobs. It's the Mediterranean piece of the global human trafficking pie that the U.N. says helps generate some \$150 billion in illicit



AP
In this April 22, 2015 file photo Rescued migrants walk after disembarking from an Italian Navy vessel in the harbor of Augusta, Sicily, Southern Italy.

profits from forced labor each year.

"Human trafficking has become such a lucrative business for criminal gangs around the world it's probably rivaling the drugs trade," said Itayi Viriri of the International Organization for Migration.

It's a Thursday night and along a tree-lined parkway a 10-minute walk from Milan's Central Station, a small clutch of Eritreans who arrived in Sicily a few days earlier plot their next move. Their arrival coincided with the Mediter-

anean's worst shipwreck disaster, which claimed more than 800 migrants, nearly half of them Eritrean.

"I have no telephone and my relatives don't know if I am in

the Sahara or in the sea," said Abraham Russom, fingering the one possession he still has: a silver ring with a cut black stone.

His mother has borrowed almost \$4,000 to get him this

far, a near fortune in a country where the average military salary is \$10 a month and many flee to avoid forced conscription.

Russom says he left his wife and two children behind after he

was imprisoned for six months for being accused of losing hundreds of travel passes in his job with the army in Asmara. He walked for 12 days through the desert to Sudan, lacking the travel documents necessary to pass police roadblocks.

There, he hooked up with smugglers who charged \$1,600 to drive across the desert to Libya. The fee bought him a spot in the back of a Wrangler truck with 25 other people packed in four rows for the two-week journey.

He spent two months in Libya waiting for the funding to come through for the next leg of the journey: \$2,000 to be ferried across the sea.

In both cases, Russom said, his mother back home in Eritrea gathered money from friends and relatives, making drop-offs that in retrospect seem more like ransom payments than down payments for a trip: Someone would call her and tell her where to drop the money, then instruct her to leave.

She never saw who took it.

Russom managed to avoid being fingerprinted by Italian authorities and wants to join his aunt in Sweden, the promised land for many new arrivals.

Iraq faces huge challenges dislodging Islamic State in Anbar

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraqi forces are on a westward push to retake Anbar, a sprawling Sunni-dominated desert province captured by the Islamic State group in their offensive last year. But as the battles for Tikrit and Ramadi have shown, it will be a hard slog for a much-diminished Iraqi army—especially given Baghdad's reticence to arm Sunni tribesmen and local fears of the Shiite militias backing government forces.

Earlier this month, Iraqi forces captured the northern Sunni-majority city of Tikrit from the Islamic State group, but only with the backing from Iranian-

trained and Iran-funded Shiite militias and U.S. airstrikes—methods that cannot work in Anbar province.

The past weeks of seesaw battles in Anbar, with progress in areas like Garma east of Fallujah, a stalemate in the biggest city of Ramadi and an Iraqi rout near Lake Tharthar, show that the army still needs help. But relying on erstwhile Shiite militia allies may not be palatable to locals.

"The Iraqi soldiers fighting in Anbar are not well-trained enough for this battle. Many of the soldiers are there for the money, but the (Shiite mili-

tias), they are believers in this fight," said an Iraqi brigadier general involved in the Anbar campaign. "There isn't yet a clear plan to liberate Anbar because of the political and tribal disputes."

Speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to journalists, he said some tribes might be supportive but others were with the Islamic State group. He also lamented how soldiers would throw down their weapons and flee when hard-pressed.

On Friday, government reports of advances in Anbar were belied by an Islamic State attack

on a water control system on a canal north of Islamic State-occupied Fallujah that killed a division commander and at least a dozen soldiers.

In the past few years, Iraq's army has been hollowed out by corrupt commanders siphoning off salaries and equipment and not training soldiers to do much more than man checkpoints.

A force that once numbered in the hundreds of thousands is now estimated by U.S. officials to be around 125,000 at best and probably a lot less, once all the so-called "ghost-soldiers"—non-existent names on the payroll—are purged.

Jamaica woman brings attention to rapes targeting lesbians

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)—When Angeline Jackson and a friend were ambushed at gunpoint and sexually assaulted on a wooded trail outside the Jamaican capital, police initially seemed less concerned about the attack than the fact she is a lesbian.

"The first policewoman I spoke to told me I should leave this lifestyle and go back to church," Jackson recalled of the 2009 attack, shaking her head in frustration.

It is an attitude all too common on the island, where gay rights activists say homosexuals suffer pervasive discrimination and occasional attacks. Activists say some LGBT people have even been the victims of brutal

sexual assaults intended to force them into becoming heterosexual or punish them for not fitting societal norms.

Jackson says she was targeted by a small group of anti-gay rapists who posed as lesbians on an Internet chatroom and lured the two women to the remote footpath. The response to her attack inspired Jackson to take action. Now, the 24-year-old woman directs Jamaica's only registered organization for lesbians and bisexual women.

Jamaica has long had a reputation for intolerance of male homosexuality, with many on the island seeing it as a moral perversion imported from abroad. But the stigma against Jamaican

homosexual women and the underreported crime of targeted sexual assault of lesbians is receiving growing attention.

Last year, Vice President Joe Biden mentioned Jamaica's struggle with "corrective rape for lesbian women" while speaking about global gay rights. The phrase emerged years ago in South Africa where attacks targeting lesbians have occurred again and again in predominantly poor neighborhoods.

Earlier this month, President Barack Obama singled out Jackson's advocacy during his 24-hour visit to Jamaica, telling a crowd that she courageously chose to speak out even though

"as a woman and as a lesbian, justice and society were not always on her side."

With a population of less than 3 million, few incidents of sexual attacks are reported to LGBT activists. The island's main gay rights group, J-FLAG, has documented several cases over the years and Jackson's burgeoning organization has heard of about a dozen.

The scope of the problem is impossible to gauge with accuracy in Jamaica. There's no clear definition of what constitutes a hate crime and police do not specifically record threats or sexual attacks targeting lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

WORLD BRIEFS

Gunman shouting Allahu akbar in Bosnia storms police station

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP)—A gunman stormed into a police station in a northeastern Bosnian town shouting "Allahu akbar" on Monday, killing a policeman and wounding two others, authorities said. The gunman was also killed during the attack in the town of Zvornik, police spokeswoman Aleksandra Simojlovic told The Associated Press. "Allahu Akbar" is the Arabic phrase for "God is great." The Bosnian Serb police chief, Dragan Lukac, identified the man as Nerdin Ibric. Zvornik is a town in the Bosnian Serb part of the country and it is located on the border with Serbia. Before the 1992-95 war, about 60 percent of the town's population was Muslim Bosnians. Almost all were expelled and many were killed during the war as part of a Serb campaign to create a purely Serb area.

Niger army pushes Boko Haram fighters from island

NIAMEY, Niger (AP)—Government officials say Niger's military has total control of the island of Karamga in Lake Chad after an attack by Boko Haram on its positions there. In a statement, Niger's government said Monday its security and defense forces have cleared the enemies from the island. Suspected Nigerian Islamic extremists attacked an army base on the island last week, Niger said. It said ministers are investigating the attack. Niger joined a regional offensive in January that has been credited with retaking large swaths of territory from the Nigeria-based militant group Boko Haram, whose fighters had months of gains in Nigeria and pushed across borders. A February attack on Karamga killed seven Nigerian soldiers, and Niger towns bordering Nigeria have also been targeted.

Good Housekeeping

Four tips to keep your dishwasher from breaking

By TOM MOOR
ANGIE'S LIST

Dishwashers are prone to breaking down and even conking out if not maintained correctly. Here are four ways appliance technicians say you can prevent premature dishwasher repairs.

1. Don't Overload

Do you ever end up with too many dishes in the sink? Instead of stuffing them all in at the same time, break the dishes up into two loads instead of one. Overloading prevents dishes from getting fully cleaned and may cause you to rinse the same dishes twice, causing additional wear on the unit, says Dave Cardozo, owner of Dave's Appliance Repair in Dumont, N.J.

"Sometimes it can make the dishwasher leak," Cardozo says. "It diverts water to the tank bottom, which can splash out under the door."

2. Power Surge Protection

Some power surges are strong enough to severely damage or kill your dishwasher, as well as other electrical items and appliances. A power surge is caused during a spike in your home's electrical current.

Cardozo says buying a surge protector can go a long way to saving your dishwasher. Another option is to invest in whole-house surge protection, which typically costs less than \$1,000.

"It's money well spent," Cardozo says.

3. Scrape Food Off Dishes

Appliance technicians say you should at least scrape the food off plates and dishes before placing them in the dishwasher.

"The worst thing you can do to a dishwasher is not scraping off your plate," Cardozo says. "Food gets into washer arms



ELDON LINDSAY/ANGIE'S LIST/TNS
Overloading your dishwasher is just one way experts say you can break it.

and pump screens."

How far you need to clean after that, though, is debatable. Although most dishwasher manufacturers say a complete rinse is not required, some appliance technicians say the more food and particles you get off the plate, the less likely the machine will break down.

But Alan Johnson, owner of E & J Appliance Service in Tempe, Ariz., says there is a fine line between rinsing too little or too much.

"If you wash your dishes off completely before putting them in the dishwasher, the detergent has nothing to attach itself to,

so it ends up on the walls, racks and spray arms," Johnson says. "This can cause cloudy glasses and film left on plates."

Leaving too much food can damage the pump/motor assembly or drain pump, he says.

"We recommend you rinse your dishes, but not wash them completely," Johnson says.

4. Use Appropriate Amount of Dishwasher Soap

Johnson says many people

put in far too much dishwasher soap.

"This will cause buildup in the machine and affect the performance of washing dishes and put a strain on things like the pump/motor assembly and spray arm," he says.

Another common problem to avoid is placing liquid dish soap in the dishwasher when you run out of dishwasher detergent.

"It basically suds up the entire inside of the dishwasher and causes the unit to leak suds out the door," Johnson says.

This could potentially lead to soap buildup inside the dishwasher and damage certain components.

Johnson says placing a full cap of vegetable oil into the dishwasher and running it usually clears up the soap.

YOUR PLACE

Tips for lawn mower safety

By ALAN J. HEAVENS
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Tune up the lawn mower because what passes for spring these days has arrived.

The Outdoor Power Equipment Institute offers some tips for proper and safe operation of all the things you need to keep your yard looking marvelous:

■ Use the right equipment for the task. Mowers, hedge trimmers and so forth are designed to help you manage a landscape as efficiently and productively as possible.

■ Select a "right-sized" product. Ask your retailer/dealer for assistance in size, capabilities, power sources and features that fit your needs.

■ Assign the right person to use the equipment, and allow only responsible adults familiar with the instructions to operate it. Such tools should not be operated by young people who are not physically or developmentally ready to operate them.

■ Alert people nearby of the work to be done. Confirm the locations of pets and children and ask that they be kept out of the area and supervised.

■ Read the operator's manual to understand the controls

of your equipment.

■ Regularly inspect your equipment. Check for loose belts and missing or damaged parts. Install clean air filters so your engine and equipment run optimally.

■ Have your mower's cutting blades sharpened so it will operate more efficiently, cutting your lawn more cleanly and making it healthier.

■ Know your terrain. When operating on slopes, select the appropriate equipment.

■ Clear the area being managed. Remove any debris, wires, branches, nails, rocks, or metal that could become projectiles if thrown by the blades of a lawn mower or other equipment.

■ Dress properly. Wear substantial shoes, long pants, and close-fitting clothes. You also may want to wear eye or hearing protection, or both.

■ Observe safe fueling procedures. Fill a gasoline tank only when the engine is cool.

■ Do not use gas with more than 10 percent ethanol (E10) in your mower.

Contact Alan J. Heavens at aheavens@phillynews.com or write him at The Philadelphia Inquirer, Box 8263, Philadelphia PA 19101. Volume prohibits individual replies.

THIS IS A HAMMER

Lawnmower Zen

By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA
KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: My lawnmower didn't seem to cut the grass as well last year as it did two years ago when it was new. Is there anything I can do to bring up its performance?—Greg in Boise, Idaho

A: A pre-season check and tune-up can really help your lawnmower's performance. While the main issue here may be that the blades need sharpening, it's a good idea to check other components to make sure they're all OK. You might even want to schedule a mid-season check up, particularly if you're having to mow every week or have a lot of yard to cut.

You can sharpen the mower blades with a metal file, or a grinder, if you or a friend have

one. Some hardware and home-improvement stores also offer this service.

Gasoline can degrade over time, so empty the mower's tank and fill it with fresh gas (some older mowers use a gas/oil mix). Check the oil. If it's old or contaminated with grass particles, change it. Replace the mower's air filter. Change the spark plug. Clean the undercarriage thoroughly, removing clumps of grass and debris.

How you mow could be a factor, too. Are you mowing first thing in the morning to beat the heat? Wet grass forms clumps that can clog the mower, and mowing while it's still damp with dew can damage the grass, too. Wait a few hours past sunup so the lawn dries out a bit. And don't mow the grass right after

it rains or has been watered.

Letting your lawn grow too high between mowings also can cause grass to clump, slowing or even stalling the engine. Learn the recommended mowing height for your type of grass, and set your blade height accordingly. Mow often enough so that only the top third of the grass is trimmed away.

TIP: After each mowing session, disconnect the spark plug wire (to prevent the mower from accidentally starting), tip it and remove any clumps of grass from the undercarriage using a hose or a sturdy brush—never your hand.

Send your home tips and questions to ask@thisisahammer.com.



COMFORT FOOD

Gringo Sangria

By HEALTHY EXCHANGES
KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Our neighbors to the south celebrate their Mexican Independence Day on May 5. They sure know a thing or two when it comes to celebrations and food. Whip up this refreshing drink, and celebrate both Cinco de Mayo and the beginning of sunny skies ahead here in the States.

2 cups unsweetened grape juice
3 cups diet lemon-lime soda
3 cups club soda

Ice cubes
8 lime slices
8 lemon slices

1. In a large pitcher, combine grape juice, soda and club soda. Refrigerate for at least 30 minutes.

2. For each serving, pour 1 cup "sangria" into a tall glass filled with ice, and garnish the rim of the glasses with a lime and lemon slice. Makes 8 servings.

* Each serving equals: 36 calories, 0g fat, 0g protein, 9g carb., 29mg sodium, 0g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1/2 Fruit.

Life & Style

A new Vision for Paul Bettany in 'Avengers'

By **DERRIK J. LANG**
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

BURBANK, Calif. (AP)—Paul Bettany couldn't hear anything.

When the 43-year-old actor initially donned a noggin-encasing headpiece to portray the mysterious Vision in "Avengers: Age of Ultron," in theaters Friday, Bettany could barely make out what anyone was saying around him. That isolation ended up fueling his imposing performance in the follow-up to the 2012 smash that brought together Marvel's mightiest heroes.

"I would go to a place of real Zen, where I meditated on the line of thousands and thousands of actors that would love to be in my position in an uncomfortable suit," said Bettany in a recent interview at Disney Studios. "However, I would be lying to say it didn't take a great deal of (expletive) effort not to rip it off. They ended up drilling holes in it because I literally couldn't hear anything."

After five years of voicing Tony Stark's soothing operating system sidekick J.A.R.V.I.S. in the previous "Avengers" and "Iron Man" films, Bettany's role as the purple-skinned Vision marks the first time in front of the cameras in a Marvel film for the lanky British actor best known for starring in such films as "Wimbledon," "The Da Vinci Code" and "Priest."

"The first day I walked on set, Robert (Downey Jr.) made a lovely speech welcoming me," said Bettany. "Everybody was completely convivial and pleasant. They were making jokes—or at least I think they were making jokes because I couldn't hear a (expletive) thing. It's actually a really nice atmosphere on those sets. Often, it's not like that."

Bettany is portraying perhaps the best-kept secret



AP
In this photo provided by Disney/Marvel, Paul Bettany appears as Vision in the poster art for the film, "Avengers: Age of Ultron."

S I D E B A R

'Avengers' stars wary of artificial intelligence

By **RYAN PEARSON**
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

BURBANK, California (AP)—The cast of "Avengers: Age of Ultron" may battle out-of-control artificial intelligence onscreen but in real life, they're not so sure about cutting-edge technology. The Associated Press talked with the "Ultron" cast about what they embrace and what they fear in today's high-tech landscape:

ROBERT DOWNEY, JR.: I feel you have to embrace it. You know, there's always that shadow play that goes on particularly in entertainment where it just goes wild and takes over and all of that stuff. But look, it took over a while ago, metaphorically speaking, just by people who were just strung out on their iPhones. Or I remember 'Crackberry' in the early 2000s. ... (As for an Apple Watch) I was just kind of like, it looks kind of small. I like my watch. ... I don't need another Apple product.

MARK RUFFALO: You get into automated artificial intelligence weaponry, which is being developed now. ... Who knows where that's going to go but it's not an accident that as (Tesla CEO) Elon Musk and Stephen Hawking come out against artificial intelligence and say, 'Hey guys, this is scary. We should slow it down,' that this movie pops up in the collective subconscious of the culture.

ELIZABETH OLSEN: I can't advance with the times. My mother doesn't even know how to check her messages on her cellphone. Does not know how to text message. So I'm my mother's daughter. My mom doesn't have email. ... I like technology for like health improvement. I like technology for how to preserve our planet better. I don't like technology for quicker information, faster. That's just too overwhelming.

CHRIS HEMSWORTH: I love robots. Especially if they can clean up around the house,

change nappies and things like that. That's what I'm excited about. ... I want like talking robots, to tell them my problems and stuff like that. That will be a real plus for me. ... We're on a slippery slope, aren't we? You can't really deny it—the exponential growth in technology is rapidly outpacing our ability to even understand it.

JEREMY RENNER: I think it's all terrifying. I think technology is amazing. I think humans abuse it, personally.

COBIE SMULDERS: I still can't figure out how to use my phone. I'm just getting email. I'm just understanding that process. I feel like it's happening so rapidly and I just can't keep up with it.

SCARLETT JOHANSSON: If Elon Musk says it's the end of humanity, then I'm scared.

JAMES SPADER: I mean, television, for instance, is a very good example. Everyone very quickly decided that the most important thing and

the best way to improve our lives was to have three televisions in every home. And the ramifications and the effect of that—the collateral effect of televisions in everyone's home and children being raised by televisions—on everyone's culture and society, has proven to be very problematic. And computers, the same.

PAUL BETTANY: (Technology) is a double-edged sword, isn't it? You can 3D print an arm for a kid ... but also you can be cut off from your children. I sit with my children and play, and I hear my phone go 'beep.' And even if I don't go to it, I'm thinking (about it). ... (Wife) Jennifer (Connelly) and I went out for dinner and saw a bunch of girls celebrating graduation ... taking pictures of themselves pretending to have the evening that they weren't actually having. Because they were just then posting it, and then going 'Hey we're having fun!' And then back to this relationship with (their phones).

of the second "Avengers" outing. In the comics, the commanding Vision is a type of android dubbed a "synthzoid" by Ultron, the nefarious robot that created him. The cinematic rendition is similarly fashioned by Ultron (played by James Spader as an evil artificial intelligence program).

However, this Vision might not be what he seems.

"He's an android, technically, but I would say he's what's next," said writer-director Joss Whedon. "He's more evolved than the rest of us, which may prove to be a good thing or not. To me, this Vision feels like what it meant to me to read him as a kid. He has that calm distance but is also strangely emotional. Paul is just soooo phenomenal as him."

The critics apparently agree. Todd McCarthy of The Hollywood Reporter wrote in his review of "Age of Ultron" that "Vision is given a striking profile and overall presence by Paul Bettany, and it can be hoped, if not assumed, that this most intriguing character will play an even more important role in the final two 'Avengers' installments."

It's a new chapter that's been years in the making for Bettany.

"I knew that I was going to be the Vision for three years because there was a bit of business to do," said Bettany. "The contract for voiceover work wasn't the same,

so I knew that for a long time and had to keep it secret, which I did really well. I had to travel everywhere on set in a (expletive) bag because there were so many cameras everywhere."

Transforming into Vision was a three-and-a-half-hour-long process each day for Bettany that involved a skintight suit, lots of makeup, a bit of computer-generated flair and that metallic headpiece. Bettany noted "the solution is often in the problem itself," and that the oppressive costume provided a sense of calm to his interpretation of the Vision.

"I never thought I was going to play someone being born, obviously, because I'm 43 years old," said Bettany. "It's actually a really interesting opportunity and peculiarly edifying to imagine yourself as a total innocent without any moral compass experiencing the world as it hits you, and at the same time be omnipotent and extraordinarily powerful."

The character, who is romantically involved with Scarlet Witch (Elizabeth Olsen) in the comics, is expected to play a part in the upcoming "Avengers" sequels: "Infinity War—Part I" in 2018 and "Infinity War—Part II" in 2019. Bettany acknowledged he doesn't totally know Marvel's grand vision for Vision—and he doesn't want to hear it just yet, either.

Rushdie chastises authors protesting Hebdo tribute

NEW YORK (AP)—Salman Rushdie on Monday defended the PEN American Center's plans to honor the magazine Charlie Hebdo, saying the decision of six writers to skip the PEN gala in protest will encourage intimidation.

Rushdie said in an email to The Associated Press that PEN is "quite right" to honor the Charlie Hebdo artists killed during a January shooting at the magazine's Paris offices. Rushdie is a former president of the PEN American Center, a literary and human rights organization. He was forced into hiding for years over death threats related to his novel, "The Satanic Verses," which Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini condemned as anti-Muslim.

"The Charlie Hebdo artists were executed in cold blood for drawing satirical cartoons, which is an entirely legitimate activity. It is quite right that PEN should honour their sacrifice and condemn their murder," Rushdie wrote.

Michael Ondaatje, Peter Carey and four other authors have told the organization they will not attend its May 5 event, the highlight of PEN's annual World Voices Festival, where the magazine will receive a Free Expression Courage Award. They cited what they

called Charlie Hebdo's offensive cartoons of Muslims. The writers were among dozens of those serving as table hosts for the gala.

"This issue has nothing to do with an oppressed and disadvantaged minority," Rushdie wrote. "It has everything to do with the battle against fanatical Islam, which is highly organized, well-funded, and which seeks to terrify us all, Muslims as well as non-Muslims, into a cowed silence."

"These six writers have made themselves the fellow travelers of that project. Very, very bad move."

Sunday's announcement by PEN that the six table hosts had withdrawn set off a wave of responses and counter responses. Francine Prose, a former PEN president and one of the writers protesting the Hebdo honor, wrote on her Facebook page Monday that she was "disheartened by the usually sensible intelligent Salman Rushdie's readiness to call us 'fellow travelers' who are encouraging Islamist jihadism."

"I do hope that the audience at the PEN gala will be shown some of the cruder and more racist cartoons that CH publishes, so they will know what they are applauding and honoring," Prose added.

Hot summer movies, from ‘Avengers’ to ‘Minions’

By RAFER GUZMAN
NEWSDAY

Everything old is new again this summer, as many familiar characters and beloved titles—some more than 50 years old—return to the big screen.

That means superheroes, of course, and so summer officially begins with the second “Avengers” film on Friday and continues with “Ant-Man” and “Fantastic Four.” We’ll also see sequels to Seth MacFarlane’s “Ted,” the a cappella rom-com “Pitch Perfect” and the Channing Tatum vehicle “Magic Mike.” Steven Spielberg’s “Jurassic Park” will get a new sequel; his “Poltergeist” will get an update. George Miller, the action-pulp auteur behind the “Mad Max” franchise, delivers a new one starring Tom Hardy in the title role.

Another clear pattern is emerging: In the wake of hits like “Bridesmaids” and “The Heat,” we’ll see a wave of female-fronted comedies this summer. Reese Witherspoon plays a cop in “Hot Pursuit,” Melissa McCarthy joins the CIA with “Spy” and Amy Schumer takes the spotlight in “Trainwreck.” A smaller but buzzed-about release, “Welcome To Me” (in theaters Friday), stars Kristen Wiig as an oddball who launches her own TV show.

Here are this summer’s biggest movies, plus a few limited releases that may break through the noise.

Friday

■ “Avengers: Age of Ultron” Box-office-wise, the summer may be downhill from here. The Marvel superheroes are back, though the most intriguing casting is James Spader as Ultron, a villainous techno-wizard. Aaron Taylor-Johnson and Elizabeth Olsen join the cast as the Maximoff twins.

May 8

■ “Hot Pursuit” An uptight cop (Witherspoon) is assigned to guard a drug dealer’s widow (Sofia Vergara). Directed by Anne Fletcher (“27 Dresses”).

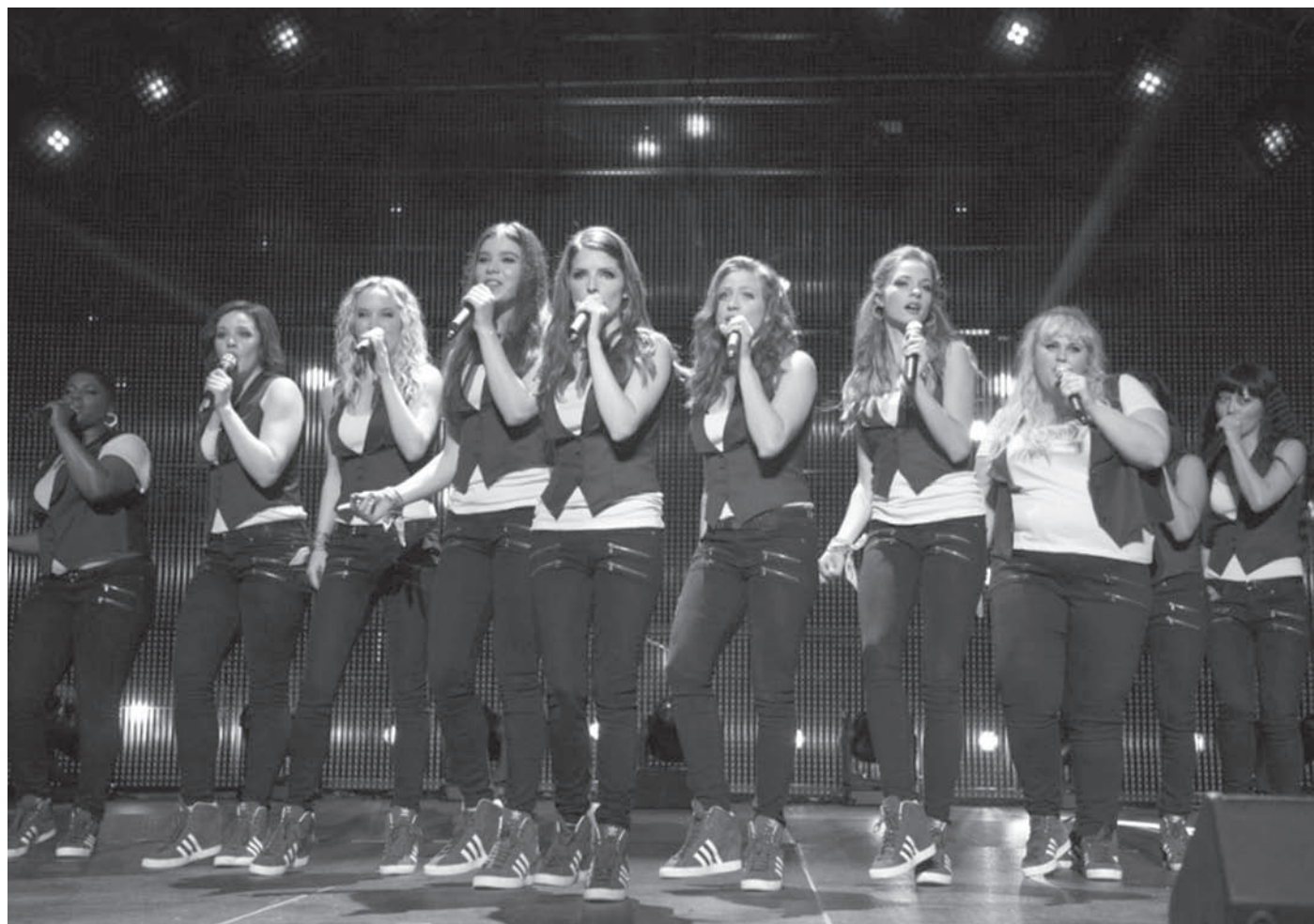
May 15

■ “Mad Max: Fury Road” Writer-director George Miller returns to his post-apocalypse franchise for the first time in 30 years. Tom Hardy takes over Mel Gibson’s title role; Charlize Theron plays Imperator Furiosa.

■ “Pitch Perfect 2” A sequel to the 2012 hit about women competing in the male-dominated world of a cappella. With Anna Kendrick and Rebel Wilson. And this time, co-star Elizabeth Banks directs.

May 22

■ “Poltergeist” Spielberg’s 1982 classic about a suburban haunted house gets an update. With Sam Rockwell and Rosemarie DeWitt. Di-



“Pitch Perfect 2” reunites the Barden Bellas (Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson, Brittany Snow) and picks up a new addition (Hailee Steinfeld).

rected by Gil Kenan.

■ “Tomorrowland” A jaded genius (George Clooney) and a chipper teenager (Britt Robertson) go in search of a mysterious point in time and space. Named for the 1955 Disney theme-park section. Directed by Brad Bird.

May 29

■ “Aloha” The latest from writer-director Cameron Crowe stars Bradley Cooper as a military contractor caught between a long-ago love (Rachel Adams) and a young Air Force officer (Emma Stone). With Bill Murray and Danny McBride.

■ “San Andreas” Dwayne Johnson and Carla Gugino star in a disaster movie about the looming earthquake Californians like to call “the big one.” Brad Peyton directs.

June 5

■ “Entourage” The HBO series about Hollywood wannabes went off the air four years ago; the movie picks up the story. Adrien Grenier leads the crew, while show creator Doug Ellin directs.

■ “Insidious: Chapter 3” The horror film franchise from writer (and now director) Leigh Whannell continues with a prequel. Lin Shaye returns as the psychic Elise.

■ “Spy” Melissa McCarthy plays a deskbound CIA analyst who suddenly gets the chance to go deep undercover. With Rose Byrne, Jason Statham and Jude Law. Written and directed by Paul Feig (“The Heat”).

June 12

■ “Jurassic World” That darned park is open again, this time with Chris Pratt and Bryce Dallas Howard on the premises. The fourth install-

ment in Spielberg’s franchise—and the first since 2001—is directed and co-written by Colin Trevorrow (“Safety Not Guaranteed”).

June 19

■ “Inside Out” A 3-D animated Disney-Pixar movie about the emotions who live inside a young girl. With the voices of Amy Poehler as Joy, Bill Hader as Fear and Mindy Kaling as Disgust. Directed by Pete Docter.

June 26

■ “Max” A wayward teen finds comfort in the military dog of his older brother, a fallen soldier. With Josh Wiggins, Lauren Graham and Thomas Haden Church. Directed by Boaz Yakin.

■ “Ted 2” The fuzzy star of Seth MacFarlane’s raunchy comedy gets married, but must prove that he’s a “person” in a court of law. With Mark Wahlberg and Amanda Seyfried.

July 1

■ “Magic Mike XXL” The sequel to the 2012 hit “Magic Mike” finds Tampa’s hottest male strippers ready to hang up their chaps—but not before one last show. With Channing Tatum, Joe Manganiello and Elizabeth Banks. Steven Soderbergh returns to direct.

■ “Terminator: Genisys” John Connor (Jason Clarke) sends Sgt. Kyle Reese (Jai Courtney) back to 1984—the year of the first film’s release. Yes, Arnold Schwarzenegger is in this. Directed by Alan Taylor.

July 10

■ “Minions” The little yellow babblers from the “Despicable Me” films get their own feature, and a new supervillain, Scarlet Overkill (the voice of Sandra

Bullock). Also with Jon Hamm.

■ “Self/Less” A radical new medical procedure transplants the consciousness of a dying man (Ben Kingsley) into a healthy body (Ryan Reynolds). There are complications. Directed by Tarsem Singh (“The Cell”).

July 17

■ “Ant-Man” Paul Rudd plays Scott Lang, a master thief who becomes a superhero—albeit a very small one. With Michael Douglas. Written by Rudd and Adam McKay; directed by Peyton Reed.

■ “Trainwreck” Screenwriter Amy Schumer plays a non-monogamous woman who might be ready to settle for one guy (Bill Hader). With Colin Quinn and Tilda Swinton. Directed by Judd Apatow.

July 24

■ “Paper Towns” An adaptation of a novel by John Green (“The Fault in Our Stars”) about a high-school boy (Nat Wolff) trying to track down an elusive girl (Cara Delevingne). Directed by Jake Schreier.

■ “Pixels” When Earth is attacked by giant video-game icons from the 1980s, including Pac-Man and Donkey Kong, humanity’s last hope is a middle-aged arcade champion (Adam Sandler). Directed by Chris Columbus.

■ “Southpaw” Antoine Fuqua’s drama about a washed-up boxer staging a comeback stars a jaw-droppingly ripped Jake Gyllenhaal. With Forest Whitaker and Rachel McAdams.

■ “The Irrational Man” Per the official press notes, Woody Allen’s latest “is about a tormented philosophy professor

who finds a will to live when he commits an existential act.” With Joaquin Phoenix, Emma Stone and 23-year-old newcomer Jamie Blackley.

July 31

■ “The Gift” Jason Bateman and Rebecca Hall are a married couple whose life is turned upside down by an old acquaintance, played by writer-director Joel Edgerton (“The Great Gatsby”).

■ “Mission: Impossible—Rogue Nation” Tom Cruise returns as agent Ethan Hunt, who must prove that the nefarious Syndicate is real. With Simon Pegg and Jeremy Renner. Directed and co-written by Christopher McQuarrie (“The Usual Suspects”).

■ “Vacation” The Griswolds are heading to Wally World again, but young Rusty, played by Anthony Michael Hall 32 years ago, is now a grown man played by Ed Helms. With Chevy Chase and Beverly D’Angelo.

Aug. 7

■ “Fantastic Four” Another Marvel superhero team—but this one features Miles Teller as Mister Fantastic, Kate Mara as the Invisible Woman, Michael B. Jordan as the Human Torch and Jamie Bell as the Thing. Toby Kebbell plays the villain, Doom.

■ “Masterminds” Zach Galifianakis plays an armored-car driver who is lured into a crime scheme but left holding the bag. With Kristen Wiig and Owen Wilson. Based on a true story; directed by Jared Hess (“Napoleon Dynamite”).

■ “Ricki and the Flash” A comedy-drama about an aging rocker (Meryl Streep) who tries

to reconnect with her estranged family. With Kevin Kline, Rick Springfield and Streep’s real-life daughter Mamie Gummer. Directed by Jonathan Demme.

Aug. 14

■ “The Man From U.N.C.L.E.” Director Guy Ritchie takes on the 1960s television series about two agents, an American (Henry Cavill) and a Russian (Armie Hammer), who join forces. With Hugh Grant and Alicia Vikander.

■ “Straight Outta Compton” A biopic of the pioneering gangsta-rap group N.W.A. O’Shea Jackson Jr. portrays his father, Ice Cube; Paul Giamatti plays the co-founder of Ruthless Records, Jerry Heller. Directed by F. Gary Gray.

Aug. 21

■ “Sinister 2” The sequel to the 2012 horror film centers on a mother (Shannyn Sossamon) and her young sons (real-life twins Robert and Dartanian Sloan).

Aug. 28

■ “Hitman: Agent 47” Rupert Friend (Showtime’s “Homeland”) plays a super-engineered human assassin. Based on the Danish video games. With Zachary Quinto.

AND KEEP IN MIND...

■ “Good Kill” (May 15). Ethan Hawke and writer-director Andrew Niccol (“Gattaca”) reteam for a drama about American soldiers who kill Middle-East insurgents from remote locations.

■ “Love and Mercy” (June 5). Paul Dano and John Cusack play the young and old Beach Boys leader Brian Wilson. Paul Giamatti is Eugene Landy, his controversial handler.

■ “Live From New York!” (June 12). A documentary about NBC’s “Saturday Night Live,” featuring interviews with scores of alums. Directed by Bao Nguyen.

■ “The Wolfpack” (June 12). Crystal Moselle’s documentary introduces the six Angulo brothers, ages 11 to 18, who have rarely been allowed out of their apartment and have grown up watching about 5,000 movies.

■ “Dope” (June 19). Rick Famuyiwa’s coming-of-age comedy, about punk-hip-hop kids in a rough Southern California neighborhood, was a Sundance hit. Forest Whitaker narrates.

■ “Mad Women” (July 24). The latest from Jeff Lipsky is a satirical comedy about a mother who becomes an outspoken political maverick. With Christina Starbuck and Reed Birney.

■ “Lila and Eve” (July 31). Viola Davis and Jennifer Lopez are the mothers of murdered children who decide to go on a killing spree of their own. Directed by Charles Stone III.

Salma Hayek hopes 'The Prophet' inspires new generations

BEIRUT (AP)—Salma Hayek said on Monday that the animated feature film "The Prophet" she co-produced has been a personal passion project, one she hopes can inspire young viewers to think outside the box about ways to improve the world.

Hayek is visiting Lebanon, her ancestral homeland, for the international premiere of the film, written and directed by Roger Allers, the maker of the Disney production "The Lion King."

Hayek told The Associated Press that the movie has a "message of peace."

"I think the whole world could use a little bit of message of peace, and more than a message of peace, to watch something that's uplifting for the spirit and joyous, and that you can share with your family," Hayek said as she walked down the red carpet for the movie premiere in a downtown Beirut cinema complex.

The film tells the story of Almitra, a young girl who finds the voice she lost through her friendship with Mustafa, a poet imprisoned for his ideas. Hayek also provides the voice of the girl's mother, Kamila.

The story is based on the "The Prophet," a book written in 1923 by iconic Lebanese writer Khalil Gibran that has inspired generations of artists. The book, a series of poems about love, joy, sorrow, and work, has been translated into at least 40 languages and has never been out of print.

The film is divided into chapters illustrated by various animators. The score is by Gabriel Yared, the French composer of Lebanese descent who won an Oscar for his work on the "English Patient."

Speaking to reporters Monday, Hayek, whose paternal grandparents are Lebanese, described the film as "a love



AP
Mexican and American actress Salma Hayek poses for photographers as she arrives to her international premiere film "The Prophet," an animated feature film she co-produced, in Beirut, Lebanon, Monday, April 27, 2015.

letter to my heritage" that will hopefully encourage new generations to think differently.

"Through this book I got to know my grandfather. Through this book I got to have my grandfather teaching me about life. So it is a very personal movie for me," Hayek told reporters in Beirut ahead of the movie's premiere. The film opens in cinemas in the United States in August.

Hayek said through illustrations, it was possible to capture

the spirit of Gibran's work.

"It encourages the new generation to go somewhere else to break out of the box" to change the world, she said.

The movie also helped bring to the audience a message of compassion and humanity from an author who comes from a violence-torn region.

Gibran, she said, "is an Arabic writer who wrote philosophy and poetry and who brought all religions and the world together."

Pop star Mariah Carey makes grand entrance for Vegas show

LAS VEGAS

(AP)—Mariah Carey wants Las Vegas to know there's a new girl in town.

The pop icon arrived at Caesars Palace Monday night in a classic pink convertible behind 18

mobile billboards bearing the titles of her number one hits.

The grand entrance is to



Carey

celebrate her Las Vegas Strip debut that will bring her chart-topping hits to The Colosseum at Caesars Palace starting May 6 with performances through July.

Called "Mariah #1 to Infinity," the show

is timed with the debut of Carey's newest breakup single and music video dubbed

"Infinity."

The Grammy winner is among the best-selling female solo artists of all time and joins the ranks of Celine Dion, Elton John, Rod Stewart and Shania Twain, who have all taken up residency at The Colosseum. Pop star Britney Spears performs at Planet Hollywood.

Tickets for Carey's show are priced from \$55 to \$250.

'Hedwig' creator John Cameron Mitchell to get a special Tony

NEW YORK (AP)—John Cameron Mitchell, who co-created the Broadway hit "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" and then played the lead character this spring, will receive the 2015 Special Tony Award.

The show—about an East German transsexual seeking

love and stardom in a retro glam-rock band—roared onto Broadway last season. Neil Patrick Harris started off the Hedwigs and was replaced by Andrew Rannells and then Michael C. Hall and Mitchell. Next up is Darren Criss.

The 51-year-old Mitchell's

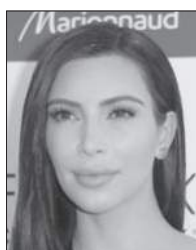
other Broadway credits include "Big River," "The Secret Garden" and "Six Degrees of Separation."

Nominations for the annual Tonys will be announced on Tuesday. The statuettes will be handed out at Radio City Music Hall on June 7.

Kim Kardashian supports Bruce Jenner's gender transition

NEW YORK

(AP)—Kim Kardashian says she and her family support her stepfather Bruce Jenner 100 percent as he goes through gender transition, Kardashian even though family members are still adjusting to that news in what she called



"a daily process."

Her appearance on NBC's "Today" show Monday followed Jenner's much-watched interview Friday on ABC's "20/20" when he publicly declared that he identifies as a woman.

Kardashian said that in go-

ing public, Jenner has found "inner peace and just pure happiness."

She congratulated him for his ability to be his "true self." She said she is happy that he is living his life the way he wants to live it.

She said, "It's not something that you or I could fully understand, but I don't even think we have to."

'Black-ish' creator set to write 'Good Times' movie

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Good times are coming to the big screen. "Black-ish" creator Kenya Barris has been set to write the screenplay for a "Good Times" film based on the hit '70s sitcom, his manager confirmed to The Associated Press.

"Good Times," which aired

on CBS from 1974 to 1979, was about an African-American family living in a poor neighborhood in Chicago.

Barris, who is also writing the screenplay for "Barbershop 3," tweeted Monday that he was excited about the project. Known primarily for his work on the ABC

sitcom "Black-ish" and creating "America's Next Top Model," Barris has also written for "Girlfriends," "The Game," and "Are We There Yet?"

No director or stars have been set for the project yet.

A representative from Sony Pictures had no comment.

Mom with secret addiction is playing dangerous game

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 17-year-old girl and I caught my mom sniffing nail polish remover. She obviously doesn't want me to know because she tries to hide it.

I don't know what to do. I don't know why she would want to do this. It's something people MY age would do. I know better than to do that.

Should I talk to her about it? She'll probably make up some excuse like she likes the smell. She sometimes tells me I need to grow up because I can act silly. But honestly, SHE is the one who needs to grow up.

I want to help her because I know what she's doing is not good for her. But how?

KNOWS HER SECRET IN NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR KNOWS: Your mother may have an acetone addiction. Because you can't convince her to take your concerns seriously, tell another adult ASAP what's going on—a relative, your father if he's in the picture, a teacher or counselor at school.

This kind of inhalant addiction is serious because in high concentrations acetone is a nervous system depressant. This means it can slow a person's heartbeat, respiration and metabolism, causing a person to become dizzy, confused and

pass out. It can also damage the vital organs—the heart, liver, kidneys and the bone marrow—and cause cardiac arrest and death.

A support group for the children of addicts such as Alateen could give you emotional support. To find one, visit al-anon.org.

DEAR ABBY: My husband had a heart attack a week ago and is still in the ICU. I visit him every day. Yesterday I found out that he had asked his sister to stay with me to "be there for me."

I am furious. My sister-in-law is a nice woman, but we have never been close. My house is a shambles (my husband and I are both disabled, he with peripheral artery disease and me after having been run over by a car) because housework is painful for me. So now, in addition to the stress of taking cabs to see him, I have the additional stress and pain of trying to make the house presentable.

I know my husband meant well, but I don't want to go through this in front of an audience. I feel angry and also guilty for being angry. Can you help me put all this into perspective?

STRESSED IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR STRESSED: After spending a week in an ICU, your husband may be having concerns about ever emerging. He

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



may have suggested his sister come because he was worried about how you would handle being alone. That you might be upset because your home isn't ready to be featured in House Beautiful probably didn't enter his mind.

However, now that she's coming, be smart. Ask her to help you with the deferred housework so the place will be shipshape when your husband is discharged. If, as you say, you and your sister-in-law aren't close, her stay with you may be shorter than planned.

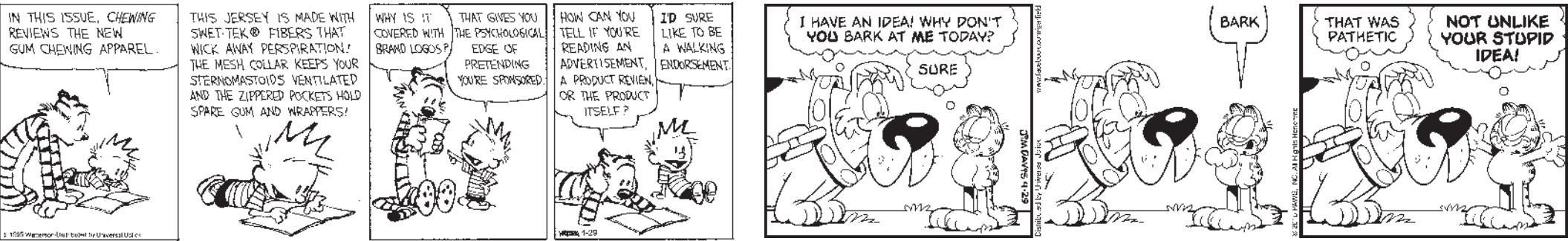
To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson Garfield®

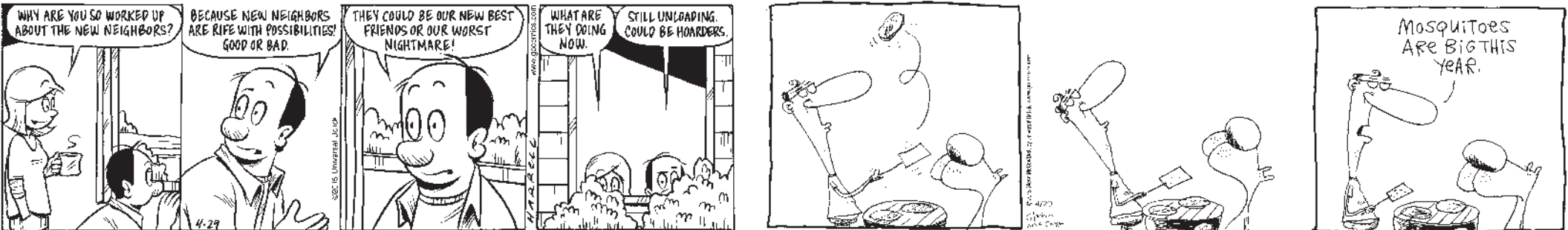
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

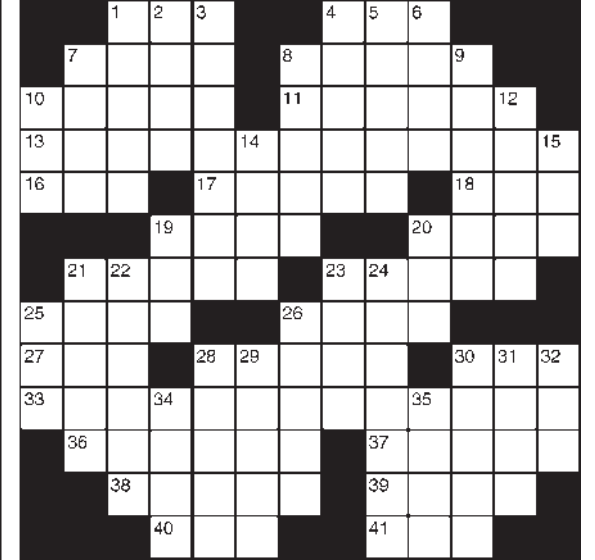


CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 30 Feathery 3 Knight- 19 Stern- 1 That acces- hood ward woman sory candi- 20 Opposite 4 Gasoline 33 Star of 13- date of 7 He gave Across 4 Mario post- us a lift 36 Pakistan subject 21 Asian 8 Hide- city 5 Prescrip- 22 Footless 10 Sedative, favorite 23 Toy for short 38 Red 6 Alumnus on a 11 Recently Square 7 Kind of string 13 1967 figure 39 Vortex one's 16 Anti- 40 Sailor's 8 Gambling 25 RR stop quated 41 Pvt. 9 Ancient 26 Wan 17 Tittles investiga- arenas 28 Indiana's 18 Fourth tor 10 Pair state 12 Not flower 19 Jason's DOWN slouching 29 High carrier 1 Com- posed nest (Var.) 20 Elite 2 Intimate 15 Mauna — 30 Type of alternative 21 Cash pan 31 Unre- storage structures 32 Year in strained revelry 23 Gold measure 25 Calendar abbr. 26 Staffer 27 As well 28 Green sauce

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 4-29



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5951. 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Andre Agassi, 45; Uma Thurman, 45; Michelle Pfeiffer, 57; Jerry Seinfeld, 61

Happy Birthday: Don't overlook what others do to help you out. Give credit where credit is due, and you will get the same in return. Socializing, networking and sharing your ideas and plans with people with similar interests will help you hone your skills and find a way to excel. Don't let an emotional matter stifle your plans or your advancement. Your numbers are 8, 17, 22, 25, 27, 31, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The test will be to bring about the changes necessary to fulfill your dreams without upsetting someone you are close to. Think outside the box and you will find an arrangement that will satisfy you and the ones you love. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take control and stay within your budget. Don't feel the need to make an impulsive move based on an overrated opinion someone offers. Share your thoughts and be ready to compensate for anyone who falls short of his or her obligations. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Offer help because you want to, not because you want something. Be up-front about the way you think and what you expect to gain by offering your services. Emotional blackmail will be used to coerce you in to doing something. Proceed with caution. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Ask for help and you will receive it. A chance to make a professional change looks prom-

ising. Higher income is what you should be aiming for. An emotional situation that concerns you can be resolved. Make decisions based on your needs. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Research an offer before you decide to move forward. A new acquaintance will take advantage of your generosity and gullibility. Don't sign anything that will leave you financially liable. Someone you deal with has a hidden agenda. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take a different approach to an old idea and you will hit the jackpot. Face a situation that concerns you and don't back down until you get the response you want. The events that unfold will turn out to be a blessing. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Volunteering for a cause you believe in will lead to a new opportunity. Don't let your emotions get involved when you face a tough decision. Keep an open mind as well as a tight hold on your money and possessions. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A professional opening will give you the chance to use all your skills to the fullest. Present what you can offer in a creative and unique way. Standing out in the crowd should be your goal if you want to leave a lasting impression. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Initiate changes that will bring you closer to your personal goal. Don't let someone's emotional manipulation stop you from following through with your plans. Face dilemmas head-on and keep moving forward. ★★

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Put original plans into play. A deal or proposal will bring high returns. A new position will give you the freedom to expand your interests and will also help to improve your personal life. Speak up and make things happen. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Do whatever it takes to get ahead. Act quickly to secure a position that becomes available. Love is on the rise. Show someone special how romantic you can be. Make arrangements to follow through with a commitment you made. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't be confused by all the choices you face. Anticipate the outcome of each and narrow your options down quickly. Don't let anyone push you in a direction that doesn't suit you. Let your past experiences help you now. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are a humanitarian. You are opinionated, industrious and gullible.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/29

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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

TEAM LEADERS Solution: 8 letters

G S T S N O I T S E G G U S S
N E P E C E V I T I S O P T S
I I G L R O T N E M D O A L E
E G A N A M H T E E R P D U N
E E A L I N I E Z T P U E S I
S T J M A D N I S R W O C E S
R A O E O N O O I A R I R U
E R B A I A G A I T V G S E B
V T S G U C M T T R E I W A
O S S R I H P E T S C H O O L
O I O D A R N S K P R A N P A
M G E B O T U F A I R E S M N
E N L V I R E P O R T S D E C
D E E O T E E M V I S I O N E
C O N F I D E N T T E A C H U

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Action, Approachable, Attention, Balance, Business, Cohesive, Confident, Decisions, Demo, Empower, Fair, Goal, Group, Guide, Ideas, Improve, Jobs, Manage, Meet, Mentor, Mission, Organized, Overseeing, Plan, Positive, Reports, Results, School, Sign, Spirit, Sports, Strategies, Suggestions, Teach, Term, Trust, Understanding, Vision

Yesterday's Answer: Jazz

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 or 20 can be purchased or in at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contain 130 puzzles.)

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Crew Member (2)

Classification: Full-Time, Non-Exempt, 32-40 hours per week
Department: Operations
Reports To: Manager In Charge (MIC)

Summary of Responsibilities
Performs a variety of duties that may include the duties of a Telephone Person, Cashier, Register Person, Cut & Pack Cook, Marketable Pizza Preparer, Receiving & Stocking and Lot Person.

TELEPHONE PERSON
Essential Functions

- Answer telephone quickly within Pizza Hut guidelines.
- Clearly communicate to customers all specials and promotions.
- Accurately record customer orders on to POS system.
- Communicate to make table personnel any special requests.
- Keep counter and work area clean and organized at all times.

CASHIER
Essential Functions

- Ensures an accurate accounting of all transactions, collections and disbursements during work shift.
- Receives cash drawer at beginning of work shift and verifies the accuracy by counting money in cash drawer.
- Obtains and reviews information regarding price changes or menu specials.
- Greet guests as they enter the dining area or carryout area.
- May take guests' food and beverage orders and give orders to kitchen staff.
- Itemizes and totals guests' food and beverage purchases or may collect food and beverage checks from guests and ring them to the register.
- Collects cash, checks, or charge payments from guests.
- Makes change for cash transactions, verifies identification for checks and prepares charge voucher for credit card purchases.
- Counts money, checks, and charge payments in cash drawer at end of shift.
- May reconcile checks, cash receipts and charge sales with total sales to verify accuracy of transactions.
- Stocks counters, display refrigerators, salad bar, and steam table neatly, accurately and in a timely fashion as per menu.
- Checks to ensure that all display foods are presented attractively as per standards.
- Displays food under appropriate hot or cold conditions as per standards.
- Keeps display equipment clean and free of debris during meal service, as assigned.
- Cleans workstation thoroughly before leaving area assignment.
- Relays relevant comments received from customers directly to supervisor.

REGISTER PERSON
Essential Functions

- Responsible for providing quick and efficient service to customers.
- Greets customers and takes their food and beverage orders.
- Accurately records customer's orders on to POS system and computes the amount of the bill.
- Serves drinks from dispensing machines or makes and serves hot drinks from water heater or coffee maker.
- Picks up food items from serving bar or storage area.
- Places items on tray or in take-out containers.
- Checks orders to ensure that guest is receiving a complete and correct order.
- Informs kitchen staff of shortages or special requests.
- Collects payment from guest and makes change.
- Helps with preparation of food in kitchen.
- Helps with getting back up food on line
- Washes dishes.
- Informs manager of stock levels.
- Restocks drink station/supplies, paper.
- Checks supplies in counter area - napkins, crushed peppers and cheese, and restocks items to ensure a sufficient supply throughout shift.
- Wipes off front counter with cleaning solution and clean cloth. Keeps counter and floor clean at all times.
- Cleans and restocks dining room.
- Takes trash out to dumpster.
- Performs long-term maintenance on sidewalks, walls, and equipment.
- Sweeps and keeps exterior lot clean at all times throughout the shift.

CUT & PACK COOK
Essential Functions

- Checks workstations for presence of small equipment, assembly materials, paper goods and condiments.
- Responsible for product assembly, checks appearance and calls out preparation times for all orders.
- Monitors oven setting according to Pizza Hut standards.
- Checks all finished products to ensure compliance with Pizza Hut standards.
- Communicates with make-table personnel, front line personnel and MIC for quality controls and feedback.

MAKE-TABLE PIZZA PREPARER
Essential Functions

- Responsible and required to prepare and assemble all products according to customer's order and according to Pizza Hut portioning specifications.
- Sets up the make-table by checking the worktable, counter, dough cabinets, and line refrigeration to ensure they are properly stocked prior to the meal production period.
- Checks all workstations (make-table, pasta) for presence of appropriate small equipment, assembly materials, and stock levels.
- Monitors all food production areas for safety and sanitation practices and procedures. Checks for cleanliness and orderliness and provides direction/takes action as necessary.
- Sets up production cycles, ensure proper inventory levels are available, and calls to back up or replenish items as necessary.
- Reads order on video or printer as they appear. Calls out and coordinates specials/missing items to ensure quick service. Tracks preparation times on all orders (TITO), checks weight and appearance and passes item into oven.
- Periodically monitors need of food and materials supplies, takes action as necessary.
- Communicates clearly and effectively to food production personnel, receives information and feedback from them on their needs, and takes action based on observation and information received.
- Cleans and sanitizes workstations on an ongoing basis during meal preparation periods and at the end of the meal period.
- Monitors work of kitchen staff in the completion of their close-down duties and responsibilities.

WAIT HELP
Essential Functions

- Greets the guests as they enter the dining area.
- Clearly communicate to customers all specials and promotions.
- Take guests' food and beverage orders and give orders to kitchen staff.
- Attends to the needs of the customers.
- Clears table when guests leave.
- Wipes tables with cleaning solution and a clean cloth.
- Performs secondary duties such as phone order taking, product preparation and restaurant maintenance.
- Keeps dining area clean and organized at all times.
- Relays relevant comments received from customers directly to supervisor.

RECEIVING & STOCKING
Essential Functions

- Responsible for the receipt and storage of all food, supplies and materials received in the restaurant using proper EXPERT, FIFO and Pizza Hut procedures.
- Receives all food, supplies, and materials.
- Checks all incoming items for count, quality and specification.
- Ensures that items are received and stored at the proper temperatures.
- Maintains the completion and compliance of all delivery and inventory records as defined by proper Pizza Hut procedures.
- Keeps all storage areas and inventory in a neat and orderly fashion.
- Maintains the quality of the restaurant products by ensuring that all inventory are dated properly before storing to effect proper FIFO usage.
- Maintains the safety of the restaurant by ensuring that all storage areas are free of hazardous conditions.

LOT PERSON
Essential Functions

- Receives assignment from Manager In Charge at the start of shift.
- Maintains cleanliness and sanitation of dining room including all tables, chairs, support bars, floors, windows, and trash receptacles.
- Cleans and restocks drink station with ice and lids as needed.
- Cleans and restocks restroom facilities with soap, toilet tissue and paper towels. Empties trash containers, cleans walls, doors, basin, mirrors, floors and toilets.
- Maintains exterior cleanliness from litter and debris. Checks lighting, windows, landscape, parking lot, sidewalks, trash corral and signage.
- Communicates with manager in charge to maintain cleanliness efficiency and ensures guest satisfaction. This includes assisting guests with trays and opening doors.
- Follows priority sequence on lot checks, should take care of any eye soars first, such as spilled drinks, over flowing trash receptacles, etc.
- Return trays to designated area to be cleaned.

Other Functions
Performs other duties as assigned.

Abilities, Knowledge, and Skills
Able to understand and implement written and verbal instructions. Communicates clearly, courteously and efficiently with customers in English. Must possess basic math skills.

Required Experience
Food service and food production experience preferred. Cash handling experience preferred.

Education/Experience
High school diploma required.

EMPLOYER'S RIGHTS: This job description does not list all the duties of the job. You may be asked by your supervisors or managers to perform other duties. You will be evaluated in part based upon your performance of the tasks listed in this job description. The employer has the right to revise this job description at any time. The job description is not a contract for employment, and either you or the employer may terminate employment at any time, for any reason.

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Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Friday, May 8, 2015.

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Nets beat Hawks behind 35 from Williams, tie series at 2-2



NEW YORK (AP)—Deron Williams finally delivered the game that's expected of him, and he wasn't going to let the Nets lose it.

And after he finished carrying them into a 2-2 tie with the Eastern Conference's No. 1 seed, the guy who had been being beaten up physically on the court and by fans and media off it knew how important his performance was.

"We really needed to get this one to stay in the series," he said, "and so it was definitely one of my better games this year for sure and probably as a Net."

Williams rebounded from two dismal games by tying a playoff career high with 35 points, and Brooklyn pulled out a 120-115 overtime victory over the Atlanta Hawks on Monday night in Game 4.

The Nets, just 38-44 in the regular season, moved two victories from becoming the sixth No. 8 seed to beat a No. 1—only the fourth since the first round became best-of-seven.

"This is what the playoffs are all about. What we expect is to be challenged, and this is a great challenge for us," Hawks coach Mike Budenholzer said.

Bojan Bogdanovic made the go-ahead 3-pointer with 1:25 left in overtime but the Nets never would have gotten there without Williams, whose 16 points in the fourth quarter were two fewer than he had total in the first three games of the series.

Brook Lopez had 26 points and 10 rebounds for the Nets.

Jeff Teague had 20 points and 11 assists, and DeMarre Carroll added 20 points and nine rebounds for the Hawks, who host Game 5 on Wednesday.

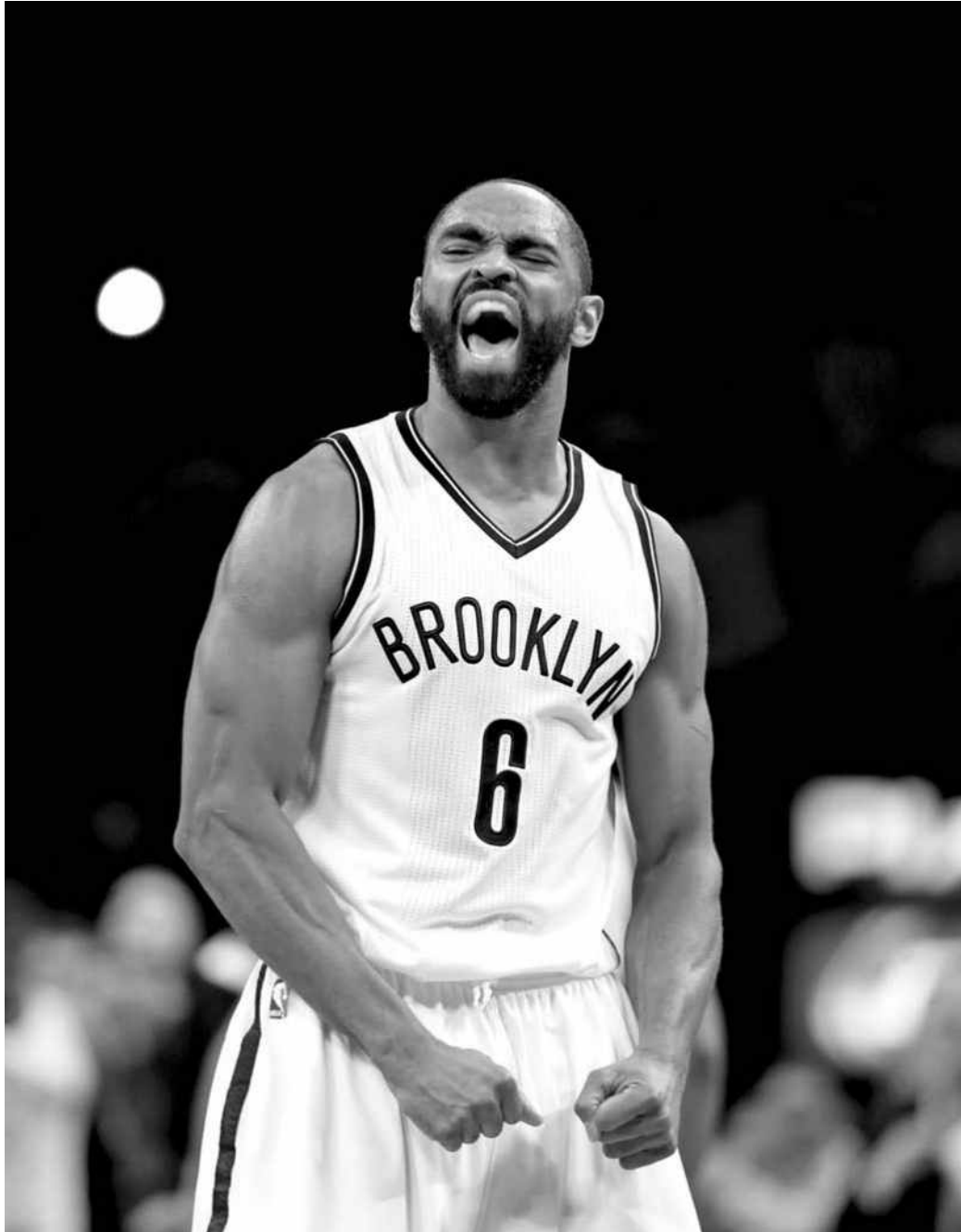
Kyle Korver had 16 points and 11 rebounds, but the NBA's leading 3-point shooter missed three straight from behind the arc in the final seconds with the Hawks trailing by three.

The Nets finally got the rebound and former Hawks star Joe Johnson closed it out with two free throws, ending what was by far the best game of the series and perhaps the most memorable one in the 3-season history of NBA basketball in Brooklyn.

"What a basketball game that was," Nets coach Lionel Hollins said. "To me, that's what playing this sport is all about."

Neither team had reached 100 points in any of the first three games and the Hawks had made only 39 percent of their shots. But they were mostly back in the form that produced 60 wins in the regular season - but the Nets were just a little better.

That's mostly because of Williams, who was 1 for 7 and 1 for 8 in the last two games, sitting out the last 16 minutes of Game 3 after hurting his tailbone and watching as the Nets seized control without him.



Brooklyn Nets guard Alan Anderson (6) reacts after making a basket in the second half of Game 4 of a first round NBA playoff basketball game against the Atlanta Hawks, Monday, April 27, 2015, in New York.

But he moved well and shot better Monday, making seven 3-pointers, including going 4 of 4 in his fourth-quarter flurry.

"We understand and we know that Deron's capable of doing that," Hawks center Al Horford said. "You can only contain that

type of player for so long. He had three not-so great games. He came out tonight and he was the difference."

Cavaliers move on without Love, out with dislocated shoulder

CLEVELAND (AP)—The Cavaliers will move forward in the NBA playoffs without Kevin Love and with their title hopes shaken.

Cleveland's starting forward has been ruled out for the team's next playoff series—and perhaps longer—after dislocating his left shoulder in Sunday's win to sweep the Boston Celtics.

Love, playing in his first postseason as a pro, got hurt when he got tangled with Celtics forward Kelly Olynyk while chasing a loose ball in the first quarter. Olynyk clamped down on Love's arm and pulled so hard it popped out of the shoulder joint. Love had an MRI and other tests performed Monday and the team said he sustained a dislocation with torn ligaments and labrum.

It's a potentially devastating blow to the Cavs, who are likely to face Chicago in the second round. The Bulls lead the Milwaukee Bucks 3-1 in their best-of-seven series entering Monday night's Game 5.

The Cavs said Love will obtain more medical opinions. There is a possibility Love could

need surgery, which would end his postseason.

Cleveland acquired Love last summer in a blockbuster trade, teaming one of the game's best stretch forwards with All-Stars LeBron James and Kyrie Irving, giving the Cavs a "Big 3" capable of ending the city's championship drought dating to 1964.

The Cavs also will begin their Eastern Conference semifinal series without starting guard J.R. Smith, suspended for two games without pay after committing a flagrant 2 foul, prompting his ejection from Game 4 on Sunday. Smith swung backward with a clenched fist and smacked Boston's Jae Crowder in the jaw, dropping the Celtics guard, who sprained a ligament in his left knee.

The league also suspended Olynyk for his move on Love, which looked more like an MMA hold than an NBA box-out. Olynyk will have to sit out the first 2015-16 regular-season game he is able to play.

Before learning the severity of Love's injury, James, a two-time champion who has been to four straight Finals, said the

Cavs would have to overcome any adversity in their way.

"It's next man up, depending on what goes on with our team. That's two big pieces, obviously, but next man up," he said. "No excuses."

The Cavs do have experience without Love on the floor. While he was a productive player during his first season with Cleveland, he often sat in the fourth quarter and there were times when he appeared disconnected from his teammates. However, that seemed to change when the playoffs started, and Love referred to his teammates as "my brothers" on several occasions.

Love's future in Cleveland has been a season-long subject. He can opt out of his contract this summer and there has been speculation he'll sign elsewhere. However, the way the Cavs responded when he went down Sunday was perhaps a sign that Love is more attached to Cleveland than previously believed.

Following Sunday's game, Love, who had played well in his first playoff series, said he was convinced Olynyk

Williams had only two free throws in overtime, capping the Nets' run of seven straight points after Horford gave Atlanta its last lead, 113-111 with 1:44 remaining.

Williams is a two-time Olympic gold medalist but has battled injuries since signing a five-year, \$98.5 million contract in 2012. He averaged just 13 points during the regular season, and when he followed that with a dismal start to this series, Hollins had to defend his point guard from criticism during practice Sunday.

Williams then saved the Nets from a 3-1 deficit with his huge fourth quarter, when he even hit a turnaround 3-pointer from well behind the arc as the shot clock was set to expire.

Millsap had 16 points and 12 rebounds for the Hawks, who had beaten the Nets six straight times this season before Brooklyn won both games here

Bucks 94, Bulls 88

In Chicago, Michael Carter-Williams had 22 points and eight assists, and Khris Middleton scored 21 points as the Milwaukee Bucks avoided elimination again with a 94-88 victory over the Chicago Bulls on Monday in Game 5 of their first-round playoff series.

With a 3-2 lead, the Bulls will try to close it out again Thursday at Milwaukee. No team has ever rallied from a 3-0 deficit to win an NBA postseason series.

The Bucks regrouped after a nine-point lead dwindled to three, and they hung on again after a seven-point lead shrunk to four with just over a minute remaining.

got hurt and flattened Crowder with a high, hard pick, drawing a flagrant 1 but avoiding an ejection. The league upgraded the foul to a flagrant 2.

Coach David Blatt does have options to replace Love. Forward Tristan Thompson was an unsung hero against the Celtics, outworking Boston's big men on the boards. Although he can't score or space the floor like Love, Thompson showed in his first taste of the postseason that he's ready for the stage.

Love added he hoped the league's ruling would be "swift and just."

Smith felt the league's wrath quickly, getting hit with a suspension the Cavs could ill afford.

Smith has had few previous problems since arriving in Cleveland despite bringing a reputation for late nights and a short fuse when he was traded from New York. He was remorseful following the game.

"It's a selfish act because I don't want anything that we do collectively to be taken away by one individual, whether it's me or anybody else," said Smith, who has been suspended in the past.

The Cavs dodged more trouble when the league only decided to fine Kendrick Perkins \$15,000 for a hard foul on Sunday. Perkins came in after Love

Carter-Williams hit 10 of 15 shots while outplaying Derrick Rose. Giannis Antetokounmpo scored 11 points and reserve O.J. Mayo added 10 for the Bucks.

Pau Gasol had 25 points and 10 rebounds for Chicago but Rose and Jimmy Butler struggled.

Rose was 5 of 20 from the field and missed all seven 3-point attempts. He committed six of his team's 13 turnovers. Butler scored 20 points but shot 5 of 21.

Trail Blazers 99, Grizzlies 92

In Portland, Oregon, Damian Lillard had 32 points as Portland avoided elimination from the playoffs.

Memphis led by as many as 10 points in the fourth quarter, but Portland rallied to deny the Grizzlies their first-ever playoff sweep.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 18 points and 12 rebounds for Portland.

Game 5 is Wednesday in Memphis.

Memphis was playing without point guard Mike Conley, who was inadvertently elbowed in the face in the third quarter of Game 3 and underwent surgery on Monday morning. His status for the rest of the playoffs is uncertain.

The winner of the series goes on to face the Golden State Warriors in the second round.

Marc Gasol led the Grizzlies with 21 points.

C.J. McCollum added 18 points for the Blazers, who snapped a seven-game losing streak to the Grizzlies—including all four regular-season meetings.

got hurt and flattened Crowder with a high, hard pick, drawing a flagrant 1 but avoiding an ejection. The league upgraded the foul to a flagrant 2.

Coach David Blatt does have options to replace Love. Forward Tristan Thompson was an unsung hero against the Celtics, outworking Boston's big men on the boards. Although he can't score or space the floor like Love, Thompson showed in his first taste of the postseason that he's ready for the stage.

Blatt can offset Smith's absence by giving more playing time to Iman Shumpert, the team's best perimeter defender. Shumpert was slated to be Cleveland's starting "off" guard alongside Kyrie Irving, but had a lingering shoulder injury when he arrived from the Knicks and Blatt liked the energy he provided to the second unit.

Cleveland also has veterans Shawn Marion, Mike Miller and James Jones—all NBA champions—on the bench.

Most importantly, Blatt has James, who can play four positions and has carried less-talented teams to the Finals.

Murphy's 3-run homer in 9th lifts Mets over Marlins, 3-1



M I A M I
(AP)—Daniel Murphy

hit a three-run homer with one out in the ninth inning, and the New York Mets snapped the Miami Marlins' five-game winning streak with a 3-1 comeback victory Monday night.

The Marlins grabbed the lead in the eighth with three consecutive two-out singles, breaking up Dillon Gee's shutout bid in a game that took only 1 hour, 58 minutes.

It was the fastest nine-inning game in the majors since the Padres and Astros also finished in 1:58 on June 27, 2012, according to STATS.

Jarred Cosart matched Gee by allowing only two hits in eight scoreless innings. But the Mets rallied against closer Steve Cishek (0-1), who blew a save for the second time in three chances this year.

The Mets (15-5) won with five hits. They have the best record in the majors and improved to 5-0 against Miami.

Juan Lagares doubled to start the ninth when his long drive was misjudged by center fielder Marcell Ozuna, and Lucas Duda walked. Following a flyout, Murphy hit his second homer.

The second baseman came into the game batting only .169, though he did have a pair of RBI doubles in Sunday night's loss at Yankee Stadium.

Jeury's Familiar pitched a perfect ninth for his major league-leading ninth save in as many chances, completing a six-hitter and breaking the team record for saves in April. Familia was helped by Murphy, who made an acrobatic play to rob Michael Morse of a hit.

Gee threw 24 first-pitch strikes and took a three-hit shutout into the eighth. He retired 14 batters in a row before pinch-hitter Justin Bour singled with two outs. Dee Gordon also singled, and pinch-runner Reid Brignac slid home safely on Martin Prado's single.

Carlos Torres (1-0) retired Giancarlo Stanton on a popup with two on to end the inning.

Yankees 4, Rays 1

In New York, Brian McCann hit a tiebreaking home run and Adam Warren pitched effectively into the sixth inning as New York ended Tampa Bay's five-game winning streak.

Alex Rodriguez went hitless in three at-bats, failing to tie Willie Mays for fourth place on the career homer list at 660. But the Yankees won their fourth straight over Tampa Bay, moving atop the AL East alone for the first time this year. New York swept a three-game series at Tropicana Field from April 17-19.

Justin Wilson (1-0) pitched an inning for the win, and Andrew Miller earned his eighth save by finishing New York's ninth vic-



New York Mets' Daniel Murphy (28) is congratulated by teammate Lucas Duda (21), who scored after Murphy hit a three-run home run against the Miami Marlins in the ninth inning of a baseball game, Monday, April 27, 2015, in Miami.

tory in 11 games.

Brandon Gomes (0-1) took the loss.

Phillies 4, Cardinals 1

In St. Louis, Cole Hamels won for the first time in seven starts dating to last September, and Ben Revere's two-run double in the seventh inning was the go-ahead hit for Philadelphia against St. Louis.

Hamels (1-2) and John Lackey (1-1) both went seven innings. Hamels had a season-best nine strikeouts and allowed just four hits, while the Phillies put only two runners in scoring position before their three-run seventh.

The Cardinals have lost two straight since ace Adam Wainwright tore his left Achilles. The team announced before the game that the two-time 20-game winner will miss the rest of the season.

Jonathan Papelbon earned his fifth save and made it 13 strikeouts for Phillies pitchers.

Royals 6, Indians 2

In Cleveland, Alex Gordon, Mike Moustakas and the Royals kept AL Cy Young pitching award winner Corey Kluber winless this season, beating the Indians.

Kluber (0-3) gave up six runs, four of them earned, and 10 hits in 6 1-3 innings. After going 18-9 last year, he hasn't won in five starts and has a 4.24 ERA.

Gordon drove in two runs, and had a go-ahead double in the sixth. Moustakas had four hits, including an RBI single in the seventh, and is 11 for 25 life-time against Kluber.

The Indians committed a season-high three errors and have lost seven of 10.

Jason Vargas (2-1) gave up

two runs in five innings.

Red Sox 6, Blue Jays 5

In Boston, Mookie Betts hit a game-ending RBI single to lift the Red Sox to a victory over the Blue Jays.

Pablo Sandoval homered for the second straight day for Boston, hitting a solo shot before leaving the game with a sore neck. He also had a two-run single.

The Red Sox have won the opener of each of their seven series this season.

Russell Martin had a two-run double and rookie Devon Travis belted his sixth homer for the Blue Jays, who were coming off a three-game sweep against Tampa Bay on the first leg of their 10-game road trip.

Braves 8, Nationals 4

In Atlanta, Kelly Johnson homered and drove in three runs and Eric Stults pitched 6 1-3 strong innings as the Braves beat Washington to give the Nationals their sixth straight loss.

Johnson's two-run homer into the right-field seats came in Atlanta's three-run sixth inning off Doug Fister (1-1). Fister gave up 10 hits and five runs, four earned, in 5 2-3 innings.

The Nationals committed four errors, including two by Fister on errant pickoff attempts.

The losing streak is Washington's longest since six straight from July 19-24, 2013.

Stults (1-1) allowed two runs on four hits and three walks. Johnson had three hits, including a run-scoring single off Rafael Martin in the seventh.

Cubs 4, Pirates 0

In Chicago, Kris Bryant drove in two runs, Jason Hammel

threw eight scoreless innings as the Cubs beat the Pirates.

Bryant got two hits, including a two-run single, as the Cubs won their third in a row. The prized rookie has nine RBIs in 10 games since being called up from the minors.

Hammel (2-1) gave up four hits, walked none and struck out seven.

Cubs rookie Addison Russell got a hit and scored a run in his Wrigley Field debut.

Russell lost control of his bat in the seventh inning and it flew into the stands, injuring a fan. Cubs owner Tom Ricketts was seated near the fan, asked a team trainer for ice and a towel and assisted until paramedics arrived.

The fan was carried from the stands on a stretcher. There was no immediate report on the fan's condition.

Vance Worley (2-2) went six innings.

Reds 9, Brewers 6

In Cincinnati, Jason Marquis hit a run-scoring single and slumping Jay Bruce homered and drove in three runs, leading the Reds to a victory over the Brewers.

The Reds ended a three-game losing streak by beating the worst team in the majors, one that's trying everything to get going. Manager Ron Roenicke left slumping Ryan Braun out of the lineup on Monday to change things up.

All it led to was another loss that dropped the Brewers to 4-16.

Marquis (2-1) had an RBI single during a four-run second inning that snapped the Reds' 0-for-20 streak with runners in scoring position.

Mariners 3, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Texas, Taijuan

Walker pitched seven solid innings, Nelson Cruz and had an RBI single against his former team as the Mariners beat the Rangers in a rain-delayed series opener.

Walker (1-2) struck out five and allowed only an unearned run.

The Rangers, on the same day they reacquired 2010 AL MVP and five-time All-Star slugger Josh Hamilton in a trade with the Los Angeles Angels, missed a chance to win consecutive games for the first time this season. Texas is the only AL team without consecutive victories.

After rain delayed the start of the game for 55 minutes, Yovani Gallardo (2-3) walked the first two batters.

There was a fielder's choice grounder before Cruz put Seattle ahead to stay with his single through the right side of the infield. That was the majors-best 21st RBI for Cruz, who played in Texas from 2006-13.

Tigers 5, Twins 4

In Minneapolis, Yoenis Cespedes had a homer, a double and three RBIs to back David Price in the Tigers' victory over the Twins.

Jose Iglesias raised his average to .397 with a homer and a triple among his three hits and Price (2-1) gave up three runs on six hits and struck out seven in six innings for the Tigers (14-6), who have won three straight after a four-game losing skid. Joakim Soria picked up his eighth save in eight chances.

Danny Santana had two hits and an RBI for the Twins (8-11), who had the tying run at second base with one out. Tommy

Milone (2-1) gave up five runs on eight hits in four innings.

Rockies 5, Diamondbacks 4

In Phoenix, Justin Morneau hit a three-run homer and Tyler Matzek pitched five effective innings before leaving with a hamstring injury as the Rockies held off the Diamondbacks.

Morneau hit his three-run shot off Chase Anderson (0-1) in the first inning and made a diving stop to save a run in the sixth. Corey Dickerson had three of Colorado's 11 hits and drove in a run.

Matzek (2-0) allowed two runs on five hits before going out with a left hamstring injury after his first pitch of the sixth inning.

Arizona cut a three-run lead to one by the eighth inning, but John Axford worked around a pair of singles in the ninth inning for his third save after closer Adam Ottavino went on the disabled list earlier in the day.

Paul Goldschmidt had three hits for the Diamondbacks, who have lost four straight.

Dodgers 8, Giants 3

In Los Angeles, Dodgers rookie Joc Pederson homered, doubled in a run and made a sparkling defensive play to deprive Angel Pagan of an RBI double, leading Los Angeles to a victory over the Giants.

Pederson's homer came in the sixth inning against George Kontos, and pinch-hitter Justin Turner added a three-run shot in the eighth off Yusmeiro Petit.

Brett Anderson failed to go the required five innings for a win after his teammates staked him to a 4-0 lead through four. Carlos Frias (1-0) relieved with two outs in the fifth and was credited with his second major league victory after pitching 1 1-3 innings and retiring Justin Maxwell on a comebacker with the bases loaded to end the Giants' three-run fifth.

Astros 9, Padres 4

In San Diego, Colby Rasmus homered and drove in three runs as the surprising Astros beat the Padres for their fourth straight victory.

Jed Lowrie and Jason Castro also homered for the AL West leaders, who have won nine of 10. Jose Altuve had two hits and an RBI double against San Diego ace James Shields in the opener of a three-game inter-league series.

Pat Neshek (1-0) retired the only two hitters he faced to earn the win.

The game was tied at 4 in the eighth inning before Joaquin Benoit (3-1) yielded three runs as Houston took the lead for good. Rasmus and Chris Carter each drove home a run in the inning.

Cory Mazzoni made his major league debut in the ninth for the Padres and gave up a two-run homer to Rasmus.

'Partnership discovers new talents'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Northern Marianas Athletics president Ramon A. Tebuteb said their more than 10-year-old partnership with McDonald's Saipan has helped the CNMI's track and field national association discover new talents.

"The decade-long partnership with McDonald's made it easier for us to discover new talents. Our sponsors are the backbone of our events. We can't organize our events without our partners like McDonald's," he added.

Jeremy Winkfield, Tyrone Omar, twins Yvette and Yvonne Bennett, Champ Untalan, Matt Mancao, Rachel Abrams, and Seiya Eda are



JON PEREZ

McDonald's Saipan owner/general manager Marcia Ayuyu, left, poses with, from left, Northern Marianas Athletics secretary general Robin Sapong, McDonald's department manager Manny Corpuz, shift manager Joe Ayuyu Jr., and NMA president Ramon Tebuteb in yesterday's check presentation at McDonald's Middle Road.

some of the CNMI athletes that were discovered in the All Schools Championship.

Tebuteb and NMA secretary general Robin Sapong were present to receive the \$3,000 check that was do-

nated by McDonald's Saipan owner/general manager Marcia Ayuyu, who was accompanied by shift manager Joe Ayuyu Jr. and department manager Manny Corpuz.

The money will be used

for the 12th Annual Public School System/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championship set from May 14 to 16. NMA is currently holding the qualifying events for elementary, middle, and high school students.

Tebuteb, who is also one of six lawmakers representing Precinct III in the CNMI Legislature, added that contributions by companies such as McDonald's help them defray the cost of organizing their events.

Joe Ayuyu Jr. said sports is the other thing that is close to their hearts aside from various community events. McDonald's also supports the Saipan Little League where they have a team in the Majors division.

"McDonald's has been passionate in giving to the community. We want the kids to learn to play and exercise. Get them involve and have a

healthier lifestyle. Exercise gives you balance in life," said Ayuyu Jr.

Marcia added that she has been happy for the many years of their partnership with the NMA. "I wish all the kids good luck and I'm calling all

parents and everyone to come out and support these kids."

"Helping the NMA is our way of thanking the community for their continuous patronage and our way of giving back. I'll be also coming out to cheer for everyone."

Armatech eases past Gilas

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Armatech cruised to an 85-73 win over Gilas in their U20 division game in the 2015 United Filipino Organization Basketball League last Saturday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The victory was the second in three games for Armatech, while Gilas is so far win-

less in four matches. Armatech took full control of the match in the third quarter and never looked back to recover from a 69-74 loss to division leader Sonics last week.

Ahead by only 4 at the break, 32-28, Armatech surpassed its output in the entire first half in the third canto, exploding for 35 points to widen the gap, 67-52. Mike Espinosa led the breakaway, drilling 14 of his total points in the pivotal quarter, while Jethro Cruz and JP Iglecias backed him up, combining for 10 more markers.

Down by a big margin, Gilas should have been pressed to mount a comeback in the fourth, but did not have the sense of urgency and instead was content with trading baskets against Armatech. JP Rivera, who was the lone bright spot on Gilas' front in the third

canto, scoring 7 of their last 9 markers, also drilled baskets in succession in the fourth, but these were not enough to save his team from finishing the regular season without a single win to show.

Espinosa paced Armatech with his 20 points, while Cruz added 16, and Adrian De Luna registered 12. Rivera led all scorers with his 27 points, while Ryan Es-

lundo chipped in 19, and Chico Bondoc tallied 15, as they were the only Gilas players to hit the board in the final canto. The rest of Gilas team combined for only 12 markers, while Armatech had six others players contributing to the team's cause and adding 32 points.

Meanwhile, Blue Haus and the Ol'Aces collide in the U20 game tonight at 8pm, while the streaking LBT Appraisal takes on Auto Motion in the first match at 6:30pm for the Masters division pairing.

Armatech 85 – Espinosa 20, Cruz 16, De Luna 12, Dalton 8, Santos 8, Fidelino 7, Cudia 4, Deocares 3, Borromeo 2.

Gilas 73 – Rivera 27, Es-mundo 19, Bondoc 15, Espinosa 4, Igrobay 4, Diyco 4.

Scoring by quarters: 19-6, 32-28, 67-52, 85-73.

FA Challenge Cup kicks off today

The 2015 FA Boys and Girls Challenge Cup will start today with two games scheduled at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

On Pitch 1, Paire Football Club's girls U15 team will take on Tan Holdings' girls U15 crew at 4:30pm. Over at Pitch 1 at the same time, it will be MP United U15G against defending champion Paire U12 co-ed.

Paire U12 dethroned MP United U12 last year, pulling off a 3-2 win in a shootout during their title match at the San Antonio Middle School Field.

Ten teams are vying for the

championship in this year's Challenge Cup with MP United U12 co-ed, Matansa U15G, Kanoa U12 co-ed, and Shirley's U15

seeded in the tournament and were given byes in the first round. Completing the roster are Tan Holdings U12 co-ed and Kanoa U15 Girls. The Top 2 teams (As of April 18) in the U12 co-ed and girls U15 were seeded in the Challenge Cup.

The seeded teams and six other participating squads are divided into two groups and

each pool will play in a single-elimination format. Each game will be played in two 30-minute halves.

On the east side of the draw, the winner between MP United U15G and Paire U12 co-ed will meet Kanoa U12 co-ed on May 2 at the San Antonio pitch at 1:30pm. Also scheduled to duel at the San Antonio pitch at 3pm on May 2 are Matansa U15G and Tan Holdings U12 co-ed. Victors of these May 2 games will then collide on May 6 in Hopwood



LEINA

From Page 28

of the Week fired a record 9-under 135 to clinch the RMAC Championship, her first conference title. The former CNMI junior golfer shot a 6-under 66 in the final day to break her own single-round record of 5-under 67 in the Mustang Women's Fall Intercollegiate in September last year.

Her 135 tally at Coldwater was two strokes behind the 133 for all tournaments she posted in the Western New Mexico

University-sponsored event but still a RMAC tournament record.

Kim missed the chance of clinching the RMAC Championship title twice, by one shot last year and two shots in 2013.

"But I finally got it. It was nerve wracking at first, because I know that they are amazing players but I just kept my head in the game and continued playing," said Kim, who tried to stay calm in the last five holes of the final day.

"I can't get too excited because there are so many holes

that are still left and I just tried to stay calm and sang a song inside my head," she added with a laugh.

Kim is the current national leader in terms of scoring average with 72.25 leading Oklahoma Christian's Anna Arrese Cortadelas by 1.33 strokes per round.

She ranks 14th overall in scoring average among all collegiate golfers in the NCAA Division I, II, and III, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, and the National Junior College Athletic Association.

guide them and when it's time to play, the players are the ones who must execute the game plan," coach Jerish Angeles said.

The game plan was to work together on both ends of the pitch.

"If it's time to play defense, everybody must work on defense. Once the ball is lost, everyone should go back on defense quickly. If we're attacking, everybody should be aggressive and attack the defense of our opponents," Angeles added.

Tan Holdings-1's defensive strategies seemed to work, as they held MP United scoreless

in the first half despite the latter's repeated attempts to make it to the board. On offense, Tan Holdings-1 also had numerous tries, but simply could not hit the target until Reyes found himself at the right place at the right time in the 61st minute.

According to Angeles, the game-winning shot was made after Anthony Fruit went for a corner kick. The ball dropped in front of Reyes inside the box and he kicked it in for an upper corner shot that caught MP United goalie Christopher Aninzo off guard.

"The players were very happy

KAGAS

From Page 28

(1:44:07), China's Chen Xi Zhao (1:45:07), and the CNMI's Manny Aaron (1:46:28) round up the men's Top 6.

Ten-year-old Rintaro Miyawaki (45:55) led the list of CNMI age group winners in the men's Under-14 with Jinju Thompson, 12, (1:04:43) duplicating the feat in the girl's division.

Kosuke Sato (men's 40-49, 47:05); Steven Pixley (men's over-60, 50:27); Victoria Chentsova (women's 15-19,

56:56); and Suzy Kindel (women's Over-60, 1:00:08) are the other CNMI age groupers.

Yishen Li of China (men's 15-19, 52:46); Korean Young Eun Kim (men's 20-29, 1:04:04); Alvin Yeong of Singapore (men's 30-39, 49:26); Kenzo Hashizume (men's 50-59, 48:23); Asami Kumagai (women's 20-29, 59:18); Cindy Franz (women's 30-39, 1:01:33); Chiaki Kawamoto (women's 40-49, 53:48); and Kyoko Matsuda (women's 50-59, 57:29) were the other age division finishers.

The men's Half Marathon age winners were Sear Choj Osilek Jr. (15-19, 2:45:12), Tyler Collins (20-29, 1:58:28); Kyung Jun Lee (30-39, 1:51:34); Izumi Suzuki (40-49, 1:51:07); Tsutomu Sekiguchi (50-59, 1:52:53); and Paul Khang (Over-60, 1:57:45).

Pipit Ball (20-29, 1:57:44); Kyungok Choi (30-39, 2:04:59); Hiromi Suzuki (40-49, 2:08:04); Yoko Hashimoto (50-59, 2:26:16); and Eiko Ono (Over-60, 2:42:49) were the women's Half Marathon age group finishers.

FC-1

From Page 28

while the dethroned spring champion ended up with an 8-0-2 slate. Tan Holdings-1 handed MP both defeats in similar scores.

"We beat them in the first round by only a point so in the second game, I told the boys it's going to be harder and it will take a lot of hard work and better teamwork to beat a tough team like MP United. I am proud that our boys were able to pull it through. I maybe the coach but my role is just to

John Michael Rojas, Jonah Poh, Jherico Tiamzon, Emmanuel Aniana, Won Kwan Kim, Roger Garcia, Albert Bergancia, and Thaiphia Austria.

Meanwhile, two other games were played in the penultimate week of the division.

In the first match last Friday, Matansa edged Paire, 2-1, while in the second game Kanoa downed Tan Holdings-2, 3-1.

Chad Shankweiller drilled both goals for Matansa, while Jefferson Sagum scored the lone goal for Paire. Matansa is done for the season, and is currently in third place behind Tan Hold-

ings-1 and MP United, holding a 4-1-5 record. Paire dropped to fourth its 4-0-4 mark, but could regain the third spot if it wins against Kanoa FC in the final game of the season this Saturday.

Kanoa broke into the win column heading into its last game this spring after beating the winless Tan Holdings-2. Andruw Omelau, Jaydee Jose, and Kirt Andon scored one goal apiece for Kanoa, which kept the No. 5 spot with its 1-2-5 slate. Taka Borja logged the only goal for Tan Holdings-2, which concluded the season with a 0-1-9 record.

2015 Saipan Baseball League Awards Ceremony

PHOTOS BY JON PEREZ



Saipan Stevedore Yankees players Ben Jones, left, Jerome Delos Santos, third left, and Gary Cruz receive the pennant runner up trophy in last week's awards ceremony of the 2015 Saipan Baseball League at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.



The Yankees' Jerome Delos Santos, left, receives the most runs scored award from SBL president Rose Igitol.



The Falcons' A.J. Lizama was the Gold Glove winner and the home run champion.



GSM Brewers sponsor Mark Sablan with the championship trophy.



Jon Tenorio receives the sportsmanship award in behalf of the North Starz.



Falcons manager Doru Camacho receives the runner-up trophy.



Mark Flores was named as the league's Coach of the Year after steering the GSM Brewers to a third straight SBL crown.



The Brewers' Nokki Saralu was the batting champion and had the most doubles this season.



Lancaster Secharmidal was named the finals most valuable player after pitching seven innings in relief in the Brewers' title win.



The Brewers' Vince Cepeda was the ERA champion with 1.05 and the strikeout king with 56.



SBL Rookie of the Year Verlance Secharmidal of the IP&E Fielders. He also had the most triples.



SBL 2015 Catcher of the Year Henry Iguel Jr., center, of the Falcons.



Gary Cruz of the Yankees, center, with Bernard Cabrera, left, and SBL president Rose Igitol.



Nets beat Hawks behind Williams, tie series at 2-2
PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

'Partnership discovers new talents'

PAGE 26



28 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2015

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Leina headed to NCAA II regionals

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Three-time Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Golfer of the Year Leina Kim earned a spot in this year's NCAA Division II Women's Golf West Super Regional Tournament set from May 4 to 6 at the Foxtail Golf Club in Rohnert Park, California.

Kim, according to the CSU Pueblo golf website, was selected for the third straight year after also representing the Lady ThunderWolves in her freshman year in 2013 where she ended up tied for third.



Her third place finish earned her a spot on the Division II National Championships where she came in at 28th. She could have earned a second-straight appearance last season, but wasted her chance and opening-day lead after signing an incorrect scorecard.

"I got disqualified because I signed an incorrect scorecard. Don't ever make that kind of mistake," said the 23-year-old with a laugh in an interview with CSU-Pueblo. "I tell my entire team to make sure to look at their scorecards at least twice."

Kim, who was named the RMAC tournament most valuable player and joined teammate Julie Sanchez in the RMAC All-Tournament team, will be the lone golfer that will represent the conference in the three-day, 54-hole tournament.

The Top 3 finishers in the regional tournament would earn a spot to the Nationals set from May 13 to 16 at the Meadows Golf Course to be hosted by Grand Valley State in Allendale, Michigan.

Kim, chosen as the 2015 CSU-Pueblo Female Athlete of the Year, topped five of the eight RMAC tournaments this season, and placed second, third, and 10th in the other three.

The five-time RMAC Golfer

See LEINA on Page 26



CSU-PUEBLO
Leina Kim will try to earn a spot in this year's NCAA Division II National Championship when she competes in next week's Women's Golf Super Regional Tournament at the Foxtail Golf Club in Rohnert Park, California.

Back-to-back for Tan Holdings FC-1

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tan Holdings Football Club-1 bagged its second straight boys U15 title after eking out a 1-0 win over many-time division champion MP United FC in the penultimate round of the 2015 NMIFA Youth Spring League last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Rico Roy Reyes delivered the lone goal for Tan Holdings-1, which incidentally won its first division championships against MP United

last year. Tan Holdings-1 and MP United finished the round-robin fall season with similar 4-1-0 win-draw-loss record, but the former won the tie-break due to its superior goal difference, 35-27.



This season, Tan Holdings' close victory over MP United gave the former a perfect 10-0-0 mark (unofficial pending release of team standings from Northern Mariana Islands Football Association) in the double-round robin contest,

See FC-1 on Page 26



Tan Holdings Football Club's Anthony Fruit, left, and Rico Roy Reyes, right hound MP United's Sunjoon Tenorio during the first half of their boys U15 division game in the NMIFA youth league last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Kagas, Edas steal show in Saipan Marathon

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Ayumi Kaga and daughters Conatsu and Coume as well as Sakiko Eda and son Seiya made it a family affair last Saturday after finishing in the Top 6 of their respective divisions in the 2015 Saipan Festival of Runs.

Kaga placed third behind daughter Conatsu while Coume came in fifth in the women's 10-kilometer event. Sakiko, for her part, finished fourth in the women's Half Marathon with Seiya choosing to run the 10K where he also placed fourth in the men's class.

The elder Kaga clocked 50:20 or 3:30 behind 11-year-old Conatsu's 46:50 time, while Coume, 10, reached the finish line in 53:08.

Japan's Tomoe Yokoyama topped the women's 10K with 42:18, while American Mary Dews was 4 seconds behind

Ayumi at 50:24 to place fourth. Korean Im Bomi completed the finisher's list with a time of 53:18.

Izuru Nakashima completed the 10K course in 40:17 to rule the men's side followed by Jack Stewart (41:16) and Takeshi Uchida (41:28).

Seiya, a regular fixture in long-distance running events on Saipan, was the fourth best finisher with a time of 42:23. Japanese Yuichi Kobayashi (43:07) and Choong Hee Lee of Korea (43:48) complete the list of winners.

Sakiko, Seiya's mother, opted to try the Half Marathon where her 1:51:53 record



was the fourth best among female runners behind Yukie Nagata (1:37:05), Akiko Miller (1:47:02), and Claire Seelinger Dey (1:51:34).

Sayuri Yuyama and Amalia Harris came in fifth and sixth with times of 1:56:52 and 1:57:14, respectively.

Filipino Ronald Villafria, who works at Kanoa Resort, thwarted a 1-2 Korean finish when he placed second in the men's Half Marathon. He logged 1:38:01 or 4:11 behind Jung Young Kim's 1:33:50 and 5:46 ahead of Dong Hun Oh (1:43:47).

Katsumi Kikuma of Japan

See KAGAS on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
From left, Ayumi, Conatsu, and Coume Kaga pose with their medals after finishing in the Top 6 of the women's 10-kilometer run of the 2015 Saipan Festival of Runs last Saturday.